

Asia	Sch 19	Indonesia	Re 2500	Peru	Esc 60
Bahamas	Da 2.60	Italy	1.1300	S. Arabia	Ria 6.00
Belgium	Bel 360	Japan	1650	Singapore	S\$ 4.10
Canada	Can 80	Jordan	Da 500	Spain	Pes 110
Ceylon	Cen 60	Kuwait	Da 500	Sweden	Skr 2.20
Denmark	Den 7.25	Lebanon	Li 2.00	Switzerland	Sfr 2.20
Egypt	Eg 1.00	Lithuania	Lit 2.00	Taiwan	Nt 500
Finland	Fin 6.00	Madagascar	Mal 2.25	Turkey	Lira 1.10
France	Fr 6.00	Mexico	Mex 300	U.A.E.	Dir 6.50
Germany	DM 2.25	Morocco	Ma 1.00	U.S.A.	\$ 1.00
Greece	Dr 170	Netherlands	Nl 2.50		
Hong Kong	HK\$ 12	Norway	Nkr 1.00		
India	Rup 15	Philippines	Phil 20		

FINANCIAL TIMES

EUROPE'S BUSINESS NEWSPAPER

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Thursday June 27 1985

D 8523 B

UK electronics: How
a sector fell
from favour, Page 12

World news

Moscow warns on Geneva talks

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said the U.S. was using the disarmament talks in Geneva as camouflage for a military build-up and if this continued the Soviet Union would re-evaluate its position on the talks.

Diplomats in Moscow thought it unlikely, however, that the Soviet Union would walk out of the discussions.

The Soviet leader also went out of his way to hold out an olive branch to China, saying Moscow was moving energetically to end "the negative period in Soviet-Chinese relations."

Iraq, Libya break

Iraq formally severed diplomatic relations with Libya following last week's signing of a "strategic alliance" between Libya and Baghdad's Gulf war enemy Iran. Page 3

Bush in Brussels

U.S. Vice-President George Bush arrived for talks with Belgian leaders on fighting terrorism only a few hours after the latest urban guerrilla bomb was defused in Brussels.

Spokesman fined

Former West German government spokesman Peter Boenisch has been fined more than DM 1m (\$325,732) for tax evasion. The fine concerns tax evaded on consultancy fees paid to him by the Daimler-Benz company.

HK Bill passed

Hong Kong's council defied local opposition by passing a Bill for more democracy and autonomy before the territory reverts to China in 1997. Page 2

IRA suspects held

British police arrested four more suspects in an operation aimed at thwarting a suspected plot by Irish Republican Army guerrillas to bomb seaside resorts.

Communist thaw

China and the Soviet Union agreed to re-establish their consulates in Shanghai and Leningrad in the latest sign of a thaw in relations between the two estranged Communist powers.

Norway strike move

A nearly two-week strike on 14 of Norway's offshore drilling rigs is expected to be called off today as a result of a call for enforced arbitration by Labour Minister Arne Rattal.

Alberta resignation

Peter Lougheed, head of Alberta's Progressive Conservative Party and one of Canada's most powerful provincial leaders, announced his resignation after 14 years in office.

Mine blast kills one

One miner was killed and 49 were injured in an explosion in a coal mine near Herten, West Germany.

Zaire defence boost

Zaire will more than double the size of its armed forces to 100,000 to improve its defence. Zaire's leader Mobutu Sese Seko said he would not let neighbouring countries destabilise his government after a fresh rebel incursion into the mineral-rich Shaba province.

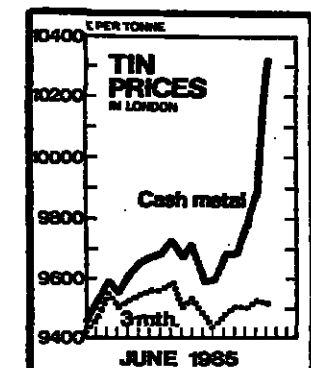
Postman killed

Suspected Basque separatist guerrillas shot dead a postal worker in the northern Spanish city of Vitoria. In the Alcala up security jail near Madrid a convicted Basque guerrilla was found hanging in the showers in what appeared to have been a suicide.

Business summary

London suspends trading of tin

TIN TRADING: was suspended by the London Metal Exchange after a day of confusion, allegations of manipulations, and a spectacular jump of \$435 in the price of cash tin to a record level of £10,825 a tonne. Page 14; Commodities, Page 36



WALL STREET: The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 0.78 at 1,323.81. Page 44

TOKYO share prices continued to advance, lifting the Nikkei-Dow Jones market average to its second consecutive record with a 73.27 rise to 12,910.23. Page 44

LONDON trading remained depressed under the influence of a further decline in the electronic sector. The FT Ordinary index dropped 15.6 to 936.50. Gilt was mixed and price movements small. Page 44

FRANKFURT stock market fell heavily from a record level under sustained profit taking. The Commerzbank index closed 60.30 lower at 1,372.90. Page 44

DOLLAR was weaker in London falling to DM 3.043 (DM 3.07), FF 5.2725 (FF 5.325), SwFr 2.5325 (SwFr 2.57) and Y248.4 (Y248.95). On Bank of England figures the dollar's index fell to 144.3 from 145.1. Page 37

STERLING gained 1.3 cents against the dollar in London to finish at \$1.2983. It also rose to DM 1.965 (DM 1.9425), FF 12.05 (FF 12.0), and Y322.75 (Y319.5) but eased to SwFr 3.295 (SwFr 3.3). The pound's exchange rate index rose 0.3 to 90.6. Page 37

GOLD: In New York the Comex August settlement was \$317.8. It rose \$0.75 on the London bullion market to \$317.25 and \$1.75 in Zurich, also to \$317.25. Page 36

FERRANTI, UK electronics group, reported record pre-tax profits of £48m (\$58.8m) for 1984-85, up nearly 10 per cent. Lex, Page 14; Details, Page 18

WESTLAND, the troubled UK helicopter manufacturer, Sir Basil Blackwell, the chairman, resigned in a surprise move he said was intended to restore credibility of the company. Page 4

ROYAL INSURANCE of the UK is paying £94m for the unit-linked life company Lloyd's Life Assurance, put up for sale by the Lloyd's insurance market. Page 4

ORIFLAME, Belgian-based direct selling cosmetics group, is paying \$18.7m for control of Goldfyn, Sweden's largest jewellery retail chain. Page 17

MICHELIN, the privately-held French tyre manufacturer, is returning to the capital markets next week after a six-year absence with a Euro-franc convertible bond of up to FF 500m. Page 15

AIR FRANCE is to have its capital increased by 13.8 per cent to FF 1,970m (\$208m) to help to meet the costs of aircraft renewals.

TECHNIP, leading French engineering and industrial groups which came close to bankruptcy last year, is making a further 25 per cent cut in its workforce. Page 17

SEMICONDUCTOR slump: Gould, Illinois-based electronic systems and defence group is taking a \$150m charge to cover cuts in its semiconductor operations, and Intel is reducing its staff by 950. Page 15

France expected to put squeeze on bank lending

BY DAVID HOUSEGO IN PARIS

THE FRENCH Government is expected to announce shortly tough measures to squeeze bank lending in an effort to check an unexpected surge in the money supply.

Among the steps that bankers consider possible are: a tighter rationing of credit in non-priority areas; an increase in the statutory reserves that banks must lodge with the central bank; a modest temporary rise in interest rates.

At the same time banks are likely to have less access to long-term capital through the bond market, which, as a result, will limit their capacity to increase lending.

Mr Michel Camdessus, Governor of the Bank of France, said yesterday that decisions would be taken "shortly". Finance Ministry officials played down an increase in interest rates as running counter to the thrust of government policy which is to encourage the increase in investment. But they did not entirely exclude it.

Mr Camdessus is believed to have discussed the measures with M Pierre Bérégovoy, Finance Minister, while the two were in Tokyo for the Group of Ten meeting. Unusually in the relationship between the two men, it is M Bérégovoy who favours

tougher policies. He returned to Paris yesterday.

The minister's calculation is that in the run-up to the general elections in March any sign that the Government was being lax over monetary control could add to the pressure on the franc.

The same calculation lies behind the tough budget which M Bérégovoy is drawing up for 1986 and which provides for the growth in expenditure to be held below the growth in nominal GNP—reflecting one of the strongest clampsdowns on public spending since the Second World War.

Because of the delay in publishing money figures in France, the most recent monetary statistics to be issued were for February. These showed that the growth of M2—transaction balances—had risen over the 12 previous months by 8.2 per cent, compared with a target range for the year of 4-5 per cent. But M Camdessus confirmed yesterday that the expansion of M2 was "slightly above" the target range.

Among factors that have swollen the growth in M2 are an increased financing of the Budget deficit through monetary creation in the

early months of the year and a higher rate of lending for housing and medium-sized industry.

The Government decided to take the risk at the beginning of the year of financing more of the estimated FF 140bn (\$14.9bn) by selling short-term Treasury bills to the banking system so as to provide greater access for the banks to the bond market, thus enabling them to strengthen their capital base. This policy is now being reversed, with priority in the bond market going to government issues to help slow growth in money supplies.

The most recent state bond—an issue of FF 20bn carrying a 10 per cent coupon in its first tranche—met a poor reception from the market, however, which judged the long-term rate insufficiently high at a time when short-term rates are still sticking at more than 10 per cent.

In applying a new credit squeeze, the Government's aim will be to avoid measures which nip in the bud the investment recovery it has been encouraging. In this sense the expansion of both loans to housing and small industry are in line with government policy of encouraging fresh investment in these sectors.

Lawson tells industry to curb borrowing, wages

BY MAX WILKINSON, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT, IN LONDON

MR NIGEL LAWSON, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday delivered a sharp rebuff to industrialists after their plea on Monday for a rapid cut in interest rates.

He warned that they must borrow less and curb wage rises, adding: "Companies can do more to help themselves than I can do for them."

Mr Lawson did promise, however, that the Conservative Government would honour its "pledge to the British people" to cut the burden of personal taxes.

The Chancellor's latest promise to cut taxes comes at a time when London markets and the two major independent economic forecasters have become sceptical about his room for manoeuvre in the next few years. They believe social security,

public sector pay rises and defence will swallow up most of the £32bn (\$12.2bn) allocated for tax cuts over the next three years.

However, at a weekend meeting, senior ministers generally agreed that they must control public spending in order to allow the Treasury to deliver tax cuts pencilled into its medium-term strategy.

Yesterday in his speech to the Carlton Club political committee, Mr Lawson said: "We made a pledge to the British people to reduce the burden of income tax. We must not—and will not—go back on that pledge."

Mr Lawson said he understood industrialists' concern about interest rates, which was forcibly expressed by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) on Monday. But with equal toughness, Mr

Lawson reminded company executives of the danger that inflation would once again start to accelerate, particularly if they awarded excessive pay increases.

He had warned in his budget speech that short-term interest rates would have to be held "at the level needed to maintain monetary conditions and to bring down inflation."

That remained the position. Even though it was generally expected that the inflation rate would fall by the end of the year, Mr Lawson said he was not prepared to take any chances with inflation.

He also threw down a challenge to the CBI's argument that high in-

Continued on Page 14
Economic Viewpoint, Page 13

Krupp group returns to profit

BY PETER BRUCE IN ESSEN

FRIED. KRUPP, the West German steel, trading, and engineering group, has announced net profits of DM 180m (\$58.8m) for 1984, a dramatic improvement on the DM 301m loss it recorded in 1983.

Herr Wilhelm Scheider, Krupp's chairman, suggested the group would remain profitable this year although orders received in the first five months were 9 per cent down, partly because of an anticipated slump in orders for cement plant.

He also said it would be "no surprise" if the slight weakening of the dollar softened the group's order intake during 1985.

Sales outside the group rose 6 per cent last year to DM 18.2bn, helped largely by increased work in the steel division, which has benefited from firmer European prices, and the trading division. Confirming a trend being reported by most major German industrial groups, Herr Scheider said exports had grown 14 per cent to DM 8.4bn—an improvement attributable in large part to the strength of the dollar last year.

The favourable exchange rate helped Krupp double its plant and machinery business volume in the U.S. to around DM 300 and to raise

total orders from the U.S. by 36 per cent to DM 650m. Domestic order growth at 12 per cent lagged far behind the overall 24 per cent increase in total foreign business.

Krupp achieved its turnaround despite increasing "restricting expenses" of DM 130m, much of which has been spent in steel and on trimming its shipbuilding operations. The group's Bremen shipyard has been closed.

Herr Scheider said that during the first five months of 1985 order volume in the shipbuilding division, at DM 38m, was double the comparable 1984 figure. The present shipyard order book stood at DM 650m, which would ensure more than 80 per cent capacity utilisation until the end of next year.

He repeated warnings, however, that the recovery in steel would be best secured by the rapid conclusion of a planned merger between Krupp Stahl and another major German steel maker, Krefeld-Werke. The Australian minerals group, CRA, is also due to join the planned merger but the entire deal has meant a drop in overall mechanical engineering sales to around DM 1.1bn.

state run by Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrat (CDU) party.

Herr Scheider warned that time was running out for the three prospective partners and that a final agreement, involving financial support from an apparently reluctant administration in Bonn, would have to be reached before the end of the year. The merger plans were announced last October. Steel orders this year, he said, had shown little improvement on the first five months of 1984.

Despite Krupp's admittedly cautious confidence about this year, the group is also having to deal with falling orders in its plant business, in defence equipment and its diesel engine operation, Krupp MaK.

A fall this year in defence orders has meant a drop in overall mechanical engineering sales to around DM 1.1bn.

Brussels bid to lift sugar price with subsidy freeze

By Ivo Dawans in Brussels

THE EEC Commission yesterday took the unprecedented step of withdrawing from the world sugar market. At its weekly selling tender in Brussels, the Commission refused to authorise the increased export subsidies required by traders to sell sugar onto the world market.

The move comes as an effort to bolster world prices which have crashed to a record low of 2.56 cents a pound in the last few days. Furthermore, the European Commission may decide to continue to keep EEC sugar off the world market for up to another three weeks in a bid to force up sugar prices.

A combination of rising world production, often stimulated by Government subsidies, and declining demand in the main industrialised countries, has created huge surplus stocks equivalent to six months supply and forced world prices lower. The prospect of yet another surplus in world production over demand this season, in spite of the final blow pushing the world market to the lowest level ever in real terms.

The Commission now believes that prices are so low that continuing to pay ever increasing export subsidies is throwing money away. "The market has gone completely barren," one official said.

But if the EEC play fails at a time when normal sales should be averaging around 50,000 tonnes a week, pressure on the Community to allow new, and more costly, tenders to go ahead may prove irresistible, not least because more newly-harvested sugar is due to join EEC stocks within the next few weeks.

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Our Commodities Editor writes: The Commission's move took the London sugar market by surprise but the price reaction was fairly modest. The October position on the futures market rose to \$99.80 at one stage, but then settled back at \$88.50 a tonne, only 80 cents up on the previous day.

Sour mood at sugar conference, Page 36

Air hostages 'could move to embassy'

BY TONY WALKER AND NORA BOUSTANY IN BEIRUT

Mr Nabih Berri, leader of the Shia Amal militia in Lebanon, yesterday offered to transfer all the U.S. hostages under his control to a Western embassy in Beirut, pending the release of the 700 south Lebanese detainees in Israel.

He said the original hijackers of the TWA jet from which the hostages were seized has agreed to the proposal. As an alternative, Mr Berri suggested that the "39 hostages" could be flown to a "friendly on trusted capital" provided that assurances were given on their detention until Amal's conditions for their release were met.

Mr Berri's intention appears to be to shift at least some of the responsibility for the safety of the hostages following Tuesday's warning from the U.S. that if diplomatic moves failed it would consider other measures, including attempting to cut off "goods and services" from Beirut.

At a press conference, Mr Berri explained that "this way the pretext that the hostages are in danger will no longer be valid. Claims that Amal is responsible or in control, or not in control, will be eliminated," he said.

Mr Berri specifically mentioned the French, Swiss and U.S. embassies as possible recipients of the hostages.

Mr Berri also ordered the release of one of the hostages, Mr Jimmy

Palmer, due to ill health. Mr Palmer was later flown to Cyprus.

The U.S. welcomed his release, but a State Department spokesman urged that the remaining 39 should also be freed as soon as possible and without conditions.

Mr Berri added that President Ronald Reagan's threats to close Beirut airport and blockade the city only helped to justify the behaviour of the hijackers. He urged that the crisis be solved with "justice and humanitarian spirit," and recalled the suffering of the south Lebanese under Israeli occupation.

But Mr Berri was also adamant that the hostages could not be freed before the prisoners in Israel were returned home. He reminded President Reagan that Lebanon, unlike Grenada, was ready for battle if necessary, while Col Akel Haidar, his chief aide, claimed that the U.S. was seeking to punish an entire nation for the actions of one faction.

Mr Berri also announced that two kidnapped French journalists had been located and would eventually be freed as a goodwill gesture along with the American hostages.

In defence of the hijackers' action, Mr Berri said they did not have "criminal intent but were only concerned with what was right. The method was not commendable but was at least partially justifiable in face of Israeli wrong-doing to which

Continued on Page 14

South Africa hit by new bomb attacks

BY ANTHONY ROBINSON IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICA was yesterday hit by a series of bizarre hand-grenade attacks in black townships east of Johannesburg and powerful bomb blasts in the Transkei black homeland.

The explosions came the day after the African National Congress, the leading exiled nationalist party opposing white rule in South Africa, announced it was stepping-up its armed struggle. They also coincided with the 30th anniversary of the signing of the so-called Freedom Charter, the anti-apartheid credo subscribed to by the ANC and other opponents of the South African Government.

The blasts also marked a significant escalation of grenade, fire-bomb and impact bomb attacks on human targets and property, and may represent a new stage in what

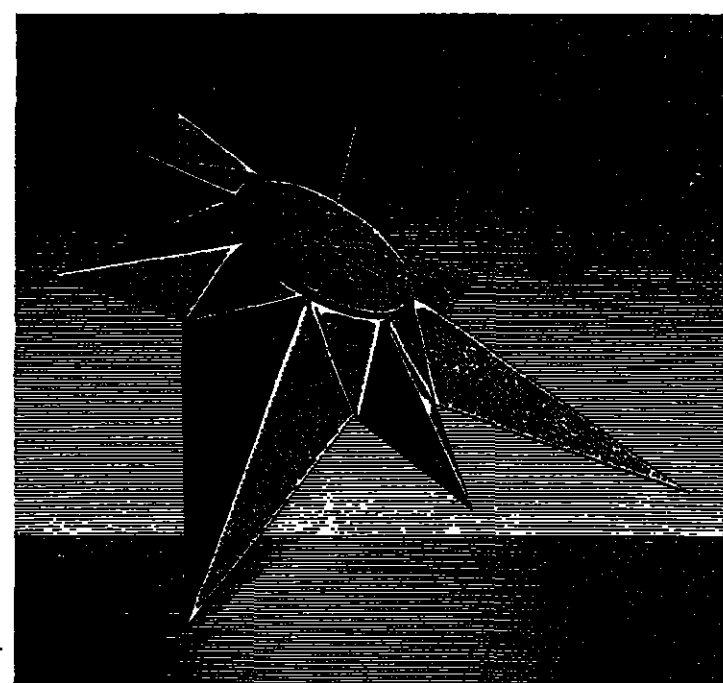
President P. W. Botha has called the creation of a revolutionary climate.

Eight black men were killed and seven severely injured in the early hours of Wednesday when grenades they were carrying exploded prematurely blowing off the right hands of six of the men. According to the police the grenades were of Soviet origin. They are interrogating the seven injured men to establish whether they were involved in a planned attack on the nearby homes of black policemen and an electricity sub-station.

The explosions took place in three separate townships. Two grenades exploded killing three men and injuring seven in a street at Tsakane near Brakpan, scene of re-

Continued on Page 14

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EUROPEAN NEWS

Delors urges Treaty of Rome changes to speed decisions

BY QUENTIN PEEL IN BRUSSELS

REMOVAL OF all remaining barriers to a unified Common Market in the EEC by 1992, as proposed by the European Commission, will not be possible without changes in the Treaty of Rome, Jacques Delors, the Commission president, said yesterday.

Speaking two days before the ten EEC leaders hold their summit meeting in Milan to discuss the long-range reform and development of the Community, M. Delors lent his weight to the campaign for legal changes to speed up the process of decision-making.

At the same time he strongly criticised plans to set up a new secretariat in Brussels to coordinate the political cooperation of the member states, including foreign relations and questions of security. He warned that such a change could lead to a Community divided between questions of politics and economics.

M. Delors urged the heads of government to concentrate their debate on the broad questions of institutional reform—including the extension of EEC competence—rather than on specific items of policy.

However, he also asked for a clear response to the two White Papers put forward by the Commission on the measures necessary to complete the internal market, and the creation of a technological community as an umbrella for co-operation in high technology research and development.

In his analysis of the forthcoming summit debate, M. Delors

seemed to be going clearly beyond the British plan to streamline decision-making simply by a political agreement of the heads of government.

On the specific question of the internal market by 1992—on which the British Government is seeking an earlier deadline of 1990—he said: "We need to modify the Treaty to arrive at it. If it had been possible without modification, we would have got there before. A declaration of intent from the summit will not be enough."

The Treaty of Rome requires unanimous agreement for changes to be made on key areas of removing barriers to a single market. The reformists want that requirement changed to majority voting.

He said that an inter-governmental conference, favoured by Italy, the current president of the Community and the Benelux nations, would be both a "public symbol" of the member states' commitment to strengthen Europe, and a "practical approach to reaching conclusions."

However, he also admitted that the summit meeting could constitute an inter-governmental conference, as Mrs Thatcher has argued.

He also urged the heads of state to put themselves to a gradual phasing out of the use of the so-called Luxembourg compromise, which allows individual members to block decisions by citing their "vital national interests."

Agreement reached over Mediterranean programme

BY IVO DAWNAY IN BRUSSELS

EEC member states finally agreed in the early hours yesterday on the detailed application and financing of new Integrated Mediterranean Programmes (IMPs) aimed at compensating southern countries for the effects of Spanish and Portuguese accession.

The seven-year scheme, worth Ecu 6.6bn (£3.9bn), had been agreed in outline at the Brussels summit last March. But continuing wrangles over the financing and distribution of the funds had begun to threaten to disrupt the Milan summit, starting tomorrow.

Yesterday's deal ensures that Greece, the most militant petitioner and greatest beneficiary of IMPs, will be guaranteed Ecu 2bn, mostly from an Ecu 1.6bn new funding line. The remaining portion comes from an Ecu 2.5bn allocation out of existing regional, social and farm programmes.

Greece failed, however, in the last hours of negotiations to ensure that the latter sources have a special "IMPs credit line" built in. The UK, Ireland and other northern member states won for their part, firm written assurances that their access to these funds will not be disadvantaged by the IMPs commitment.

W. Germany backs Eureka high technology project

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN BONN

WEST GERMANY last night gave its clearest endorsement so far of the French-sponsored Eureka project for high technology co-operation in Europe, which is to be a key theme at this weekend's Community summit in Milan.

This unequivocal backing in principle to Eureka, which in some respects overlaps with the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) of the U.S., emerged at a meeting here of the respective defence, foreign and technology ministers of the Paris and Bonn governments.

It follows multiplying indications from various major companies in the two countries of readiness to take part in projects under the umbrella of Eureka, once a go-ahead has been given by EEC heads of

government in Milan, and a specific framework established by technology ministers.

After a lukewarm initial reception to the French scheme, put forward as little more than an idea in mid-April by President Mitterrand, Bonn has been showing steadily growing interest, most notably in the person of Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister.

However, officials here have made clear that Bonn will want to be convinced of the feasibility and market prospects of individual ventures under the umbrella of Eureka before committing itself on funding. West Germany is also keen that the entire scheme should not be limited to EEC member countries, but be open to other European nations.



President Eanes: likely to dissolve Parliament

Portuguese President ponders his options

By Diana Smith in Lisbon

PRESIDENT Ramalho Eanes is expected to tell the Portuguese people in the next few days what he intends to do about the government crisis precipitated on June 4 when the leader of the minority Social Democrats announced his party's intention to walk out of the two-year-old coalition.

Yesterday Gen Eanes had his fourth meeting in a fortnight with his Council of State, the advisory body made up of main party leaders and prominent personalities. For the second time the council met under the constitutional clause which permits it to discuss possible dissolution of Parliament and a snap general election.

Though the content of the meeting was not made public, the likelihood that Gen Eanes will dissolve Parliament by July 14—the cut-off date for his intention to call scheduled December presidential elections—is now very strong. All parties but the Socialists want elections and Mr Mario Soares's formal resignation on Tuesday indicated that the embattled Socialist leader concedes that he had no support for his battle to maintain stable government until December.

Soviet regional party leader replaced

By Patrick Cockburn in Moscow

A COMMUNIST Party leader from central Russia, Mr Filipp Knyazev, has been replaced by an inspector from the Central Committee in Moscow as part of the general campaign to change the Communist Party leadership at local level.

Mr Knyazev, 69, first party secretary for the Kurgan region close to the Urals for 26 years, is replaced by Mr Alexander Pichanov, 53, the Communist Party daily, Pravda, said yesterday.

An increasing number of party and state officials are expected to be replaced over the next eight months up to the meeting of the next Communist Party congress in February 1986.

In the three months since Mr Mikhail Gorbachev was elected leader 12 Communist Party chiefs or first secretaries in the 153 districts into which the Soviet Union is divided have been replaced. This compares to 16 changes in the year that President Chernenko held power.

Other moves, possible then or later in the year, include the retirement of Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister, who is in operational charge of the economy although 80 years old. There are also doubts about the future of some Politburo members.

David Housego adds from Paris: Mr Gorbachev is to visit France in the autumn, Mr Stepan Tchernomys, the former Russian ambassador to Paris confirmed yesterday. Mr Gorbachev's visit will be his first trip to West Europe since taking power.

Why Bonn cannot easily yield ground

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN BONN

THE ISSUE which will be exercising EEC Environment Ministers in Luxembourg today may be the eminently technical and—to the layman at least—largely incomprehensible one of car exhaust standards, catalytic converters and emissions of nitrogen oxides.

But the language used in Bonn to describe a dispute which pits West Germany against France, Italy and above all Britain has acquired a militaristic, almost evangelical fervour as climax approaches. "This is a battle we will win," a Government spokesman declared on Tuesday, referring to the fruitless outcome of final "war negotiations" in London, between Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Interior Minister responsible for the environment, and his equally unyielding British opposite numbers.

Verbal resolve has only been stiffened, moreover, by the unwillingly to sack Jacques Calvet, chairman of the French Peugeot car group, that a "bunch of hysterics" in Bonn, in their eagerness to force the pace on lowering car pollution, was putting the very survival of the European motor industry in peril.

Such exchanges have predictably generated still more heat than light, and few would hazard a guess on how the Luxembourg discussions, on the basis of EEC Commission proposals which satisfy no one, will end.

The speculation here ranges from breakdown, which could lead to unilateral German action to enforce tougher standards and the possibility of retaliatory measures, legal or commercial, by Bonn's partners, to a compromise which would, in effect, allow both sides to go their own way. But what is unmistakable is the pressure, political and emotional, which has held the Bonn Government to its course.

After its battering in the recent North Rhine-Westphalia state election, the fractious Christian Democratic-led coalition of Chancellor Helmut Kohl can not be seen to yield any further ground, least of all on as sensitive a topic as the fight to save dying German forests, for whose plight car pollution and above all nitrogen oxide emissions are held to be the prime culprits.

The Cabinet this week again promised unequivocal support to Herr Zimmermann in his sally to Luxembourg—as well it might. The Interior Minister belongs to the CDU, the CDU's Bavarian sister party. And to betray him would invite fierce, conceivably fatal, retribution from Herr Franz-Josef Strauss, not merely leader of the CDU but the most cutting critic of the Chancellor.

As if to underline the point, Herr Strauss has sent an open letter to Herr Kohl urging him if Bonn did not have its way in Luxembourg—to bring the entire car pollution controversy to this weekend's EEC summit in Milan.

That is something the Chancellor, who is already under fire for West Germany's use of the veto to block Community cereal price cuts earlier this

month, will do his utmost to avoid. But as the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, the influential conservative daily, remarked yesterday, if ever there was a "vital national interest" which justified a veto by Bonn, it was not farm prices but the preservation of German forests, threatened by pollution which could in turn be tackled only by supranational action.

The odds Germany-watchers might see this as further proof of a new unfocused nationalism; and without doubt the Government's line has broad cross-party support. What criticism there has been has been less of the goal itself than of the crucial tactical mistake of Herr Zimmermann in under-estimating from the start the likely resistance of other major EEC countries to swift, strict measures to cut car pollution.

For that reason too, demands have been made for a speed limit, which West Germany alone in the EEC does not have. But if Bonn, as seems likely,

does fail to carry the day, there could be one notably, if backhanded, consolation: exactly DM 7bn (£875m) more tax revenue between now and 1994, economists at the IFO institute reckon, than the Government might otherwise have expected.

Less stringent emission standards, the Munich-based IFO points out, will reduce the incentives of Bonn's promised purchasers of low-polluting cars and which are due, in theory at least, to become low on July 3. What is more, deliveries of models fitted with converters have thus far been extremely scanty, just 12,184 in the first four months of 1985.

The authorities had hoped that as many as 44 per cent of all new cars on the road this year might be so equipped, but IFO is now reckoning at 12 per cent, or even fewer if the present confusion over model speed limits, which West Germany alone in the EEC does not have, many alone in the EEC does not have. But if Bonn, as seems likely,

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Moscow to cut French gas price

BY DOMINIC LAWSON IN MUNICH

THE Soviet Union has agreed to reduce the price that it charges France for two major gas contracts. The revision is likely to save France about FF1.1bn (£33m) on its gas bill in 1985 alone.

Several weeks ago the Soviet Union had agreed to reduce the price of its 1982 gas supply contract to about £8.5 per million British Thermal Units (mbtu). But the French have been taken aback by the speed with which the Soviet Union has now agreed to cut the price from £8.5 to £7.5 per mmbtu, signed in 1976 and 1980—totaling 4bn cubic metres a year.

The price agreed at the time was about \$4 per mmbtu and the cut was retroactive to the start of this year.

France buys about 20 per cent of its gas from the Soviet Union but the Soviet move is clearly designed to impress on the French that they would benefit by giving a bigger share of their market to the Soviet Union.

Mr Yuri Baranovsky, the president of Soyuz Gazexport, who signed the new deal with Gaz de France in Munich on Tuesday, said yesterday that the Soviet Union's main foreign currency earner within the next few years. He added that the Soviet Union was very close to signing its first gas sales contract to Turkey and the negotiations to sell gas to Greece had been stalled by the Greek general election.

The Soviet Union's main rival in the supply of gas to Europe, Norway, is increasingly concerned that the Soviet Union will take more and more of its market share.

Mr Kaare Kristiansen, Norwegian Energy Minister, said yesterday that while he realised that Norwegians had to compete with "other relevant sources" that competition with other suppliers could be more difficult especially if their economic systems are different and so centralised that market forces are put out of work.

On Tuesday Mr Viktor

Tschernomyrdin, the Soviet Gas Industry Minister, conceded that competition with other EEC countries exported on a barter basis.

However, Sir Denis Rooke, the chairman of British Gas, in an interview with the Financial Times on Tuesday, pointed out that the Norwegians had not invited British Gas to their current talks with European gas buyers about sales of gas from Norway's giant Troll field.

Sir Denis said that "nobody has told me I can't talk to the Russians" and that Norway must compete with the Soviet Union on price.

Any move by the UK to discuss gas imports with the Soviet Union would cause major anxiety within the U.S.

Gasunie of Holland cut its gas price to France by about 7 per cent earlier this year. M. Pierre Alby, chairman of Gaz de France, said yesterday that, after the revision, Soviet gas was "at terms similar to those of our Dutch imports."

million BTU from Dutch exporter Gasunie.

While professing ignorance of the new Dutch and Soviet terms, Mr Nabi has clearly picked up the message from the conference that gas prices in Europe are moving downwards as utilities try to retain market shares for gas in the face of competition from oil and electricity.

Algeria is apparently now more willing to discuss price cuts but less willing to discuss volume cutbacks. Mr Nabi also said that he expected

Algeria to announce contracts for up to 10bn cubic metres of gas within the next few weeks. He would not name the countries involved but he did not deny that they were Yugoslavia and Brazil.

However, despite official reports in the past indicating that both of these contracts would involve a degree of barter, Mr Nabi asserted that Algeria would not accept barter terms for any gas sale contract.

Algeria's sale to Brazil is expected to be for a period of four to five years at a level of 1bn cubic metres

Hungary faults Comecon over low food prices

BY LESLIE COLFITT IN EAST BERLIN

HUNGARY is a leading food supplier for rest of Comecon—mainly meat—and Bulgaria ranks second.

Hungary's leading economics journal, Figyelő, noted that reliable supplies of food to Comecon's population were of "strategic importance." It said Hungary had managed to triple its farm exports to Comecon in the past 10 years as a result of heavy investments. The improving countries, Figyelő said, must now also invest in the agricultural and food processing sectors in Hungary and the other Comecon food exporters as well as "create an economic incentive" for them.

This is precisely what the Soviet Union has done in recent years: it has got its East European partners to invest heavily in the Soviet oil, gas and raw materials industries in order to continue getting regular supplies from Moscow.

The trade to Yugoslavia will be via the trans-mediterranean pipeline from Algeria to northern Italy but will have to await adaptations to the Algerian section of the pipeline.

Algeria has yet to build a second 48-inch line from the Hassi R'Mel gas field to the Tunisian border to meet increased supply commitments to Italy. Mr Nabi said that work to remedy this capacity shortfall was behind schedule.

On Tuesday he told the court he had no more evidence to give. "I can't give any more answers, there's nothing left. I can't invent new things to say. The more replies I give, the more complicated it gets."

Earlier, he appeared to destroy an important part of the prosecution case against Mr Sergei Antonov, the Bulgarian airline official, who is on trial. He said that he and his Turkish accomplices had planned to escape from St Peter's in their own car. It was a key part of his testimony to investigating magistrate, Sig. Mario Martella, that Mr Antonov would drive them away.

Mr Agca said later that the Antonov plan was an alternative.

THE month-old trial of three Bulgarians and five Turks for conspiracy to murder Pope John Paul II resumes today after a day's break with the prosecution case against the Bulgarians in serious difficulty.

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Denmark's income tax reforms receive mixed welcome

Hilary Barnes assesses the six-party agreement on tax changes



Prime Minister Poul Schlüter: hoping savings boost

AGREEMENT on a major reform of the Danish income tax system, which has eluded successive governments for 20 years, has been won by Prime Minister Poul Schlüter's four-party non-Socialist coalition, at the end of its third annual parliamentary session.

The agreement, in addition to being supported by the coalition parties—the Conservatives, Liberals, Centre Democrats and Christian Peoples Party—is backed by the social-liberal Radical Party, which holds the balance between the centre-right Government in the present Folketing, and the opposition Social Democrats. The broad-based agreement means that the deal will not be unravelled if there is a change of government.

The reform has received a mixed welcome, especially from the business sectors, which will pay for reductions in personal income tax through a higher

rate of corporate income tax and restrictions on entertainment spending. It is a fair guess that the present coalition parties would have opposed this outcome with some vehemence had they still been in opposition.

Should the Government succeed in surviving for a full term it will be the first Government to do so since the non-Socialist Government of 1968-71. Since then there has been an election on average every two years.

The tax reform agreement (the actual legislation will be passed first in the Folketing session which starts in October) adds to the list of significant achievements by Mr Schlüter's Government. These already include:

● The suspension of the automatic price-wage indexation system since October, 1982;

● Success in stopping the rise, in terms of public expenditure, which, as a recent OECD report on member countries' social welfare spending pointed out, is a remarkably difficult achievement.

● The almost complete removal of restrictions on foreign exchange transactions. This will expose any government, or parties which may be about to become the government, to massive retribution via the foreign exchange markets if it makes over-extravagant promises or leads markets to believe that the present policy of maintaining an unchanged exchange rate (within the EMS) could be abandoned.

● The imposition of a statutory incomes policy, with effect from March 1 this year, which, if fully effective, will reduce the rise in wage rates over the

two years of the policy to around 2 per cent a year.

The central issue the Government has tackled through its tax proposal is the incentive to individuals to build up debt and the disincentive to save. This has created a serious problem for Denmark because the low savings rate is an inadequate domestic base for funding Denmark's large balance of payments deficits.

The incentive to borrow comes from unlimited right to deduct interest paid on debt from income so that tax is paid on a reduced total income. At the same time, marginal tax rates are very high.

The main measure in the reform package will be a significant reduction in the tax concessions allowed on interest income.

The second main measure is

a reduction of marginal income taxes. On all incomes of up to DKr 200,000 (£14,000) a year, tax will be paid at a rate of 50 per cent, which is substantially lower than under the present tax scales.

The top rate of income tax under the new system will be 68 per cent compared with 73 per cent at present, and there will be only two basic rates, 50 per cent and 68 per cent.

A whole series of deductions which are allowed under the present system will also disappear when the measures take effect.

Interest income will be taxed at 50 per cent, not at the normal rate of income tax: corporate tax has been increased from 40 to 50 per cent already.

The reform parties hope that the general impact will be to encourage a higher rate of

and to make it more attractive to increase earnings by, for example, accepting overtime work.

The increase in corporate income tax—and a reduction to 25 per cent of the amount companies can deduct for entertainment and representation expenditure—means that the income tax reform will be largely paid for by business, except for DKr 3bn or so which remains unfunded.

The latter fact has caused many commentators to forecast that the tax increases will not be necessary as the increase in savings arising from the tax reform will soak up any surplus spending money.

Pope murder plot case in difficulties

By James Buxton in Rome

THE month-old trial of three Bulgarians and five Turks for conspiracy to murder Pope John Paul II resumes today after a day's break with the prosecution case against the Bulgarians in serious difficulty.

Mr Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish would-be assassin of the Pope, has proved to be lamentable as the star witness. He has, prevaricated, contradicted himself and diverted the court by claiming to be the reincarnation of Jesus Christ.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

India urges overseas crackdown on Sikh extremists

BY JOHN ELLIOTT IN NEW DELHI

INDIA is urging the governments of Canada, the U.S. and Britain to take tougher action to curb the activities of Sikh extremists who are using the countries as bases from which to plan violent campaigns for an independent Sikh state called Khalistan.

The Indian Government believes that the suspected Sikh involvement in the Air India Jumbo jet crash will persuade the countries to regard Sikh extremists as potential criminals and terrorists rather than as political refugees whose views and activities should be absorbed without interference.

Meanwhile, the events of the past few days may slow down moves in India towards a possible settlement of the Sikhs' political and economic demands for their northern Indian state of Punjab.

The system of President's direct rule from Delhi introduced in the Punjab in October 1983, because of increasing violence, expires in October and should constitutionally be replaced with fresh elections for the state's assembly.

The assembly stood in abeyance after President's rule was introduced till yesterday when its official term of office expired.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, India's Prime Minister, is now moving slowly towards a fresh attempt for peace talks in the hope that elections in the state could be held by the end of the year.

But the political situation among warring Sikh factions is not yet stable enough for an early initiative.

International co-operation between the security forces of the countries involved in the forces of European and North American countries has been stepped up in the past few days with the hunt for Mr Lal Singh and Mr Amand Singh, two Sikhs wanted by the U.S. Federal

NO SIGNALS have been detected from the flight recorder of the Air India Boeing, which is thought to be lying in 6,000 ft of water off the Cork coast. Our Dublin Correspondent writes. Search vessels, led by HMS Challenger, which have taken special equipment on board to help locate the "black box" are continuing the hunt for debris from the plane at the crash site.

No similar operation in such depth has ever been mounted before, and prospects of finding the recorder remain slim.

The wreckage so far recovered is being assembled by Indian investigators in a location in Cork which the authorities are keeping secret.

Bureau of Investigation in connection with a plot to assassinate Mr Gandhi while he was in the U.S. They are now wanted in connection with the Air India crash.

For nearly a year India has been asking the UK, U.S. and Canada plus other countries such as West Germany and the Netherlands — to bring police pressure to bear on Sikh extremists. But it has been generally discredited by the response although it acknowledges the UK has been taken in recent weeks.

Its displeasure with the UK has received most publicity because of the historic links between the two countries and because of publicity generated by BBC broadcasts. Such factors make India more sensitive about what happens and is said in the UK than other English-speaking countries.

But attention has been turning to the U.S. and Canada



Rafsanjani: trusted Khomeini aide

Iraq severs relations with Libya

By Our Middle East Staff

IRAQ severed relations with Libya yesterday in recognition of the deepening divisions between the two countries over the Gulf War and over moves towards a settlement of the Palestinian issue.

The immediate cause of the split appears to have been the visit to the Libyan capital of Tripoli by Hajjotollah Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Iranian Parliament and one of the most trusted aides of Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian ruler.

During his visit to Libya, Rafsanjani signed a 10-point communiqué which recorded Libya's stand with Iran in the "war imposed on it by the fascist and Ba'athist Saddam Hussein of Iraq which is acting on the orders of U.S. imperialism, Arab reaction and Zionism."

Libya is also suspected of supplying Iran with Soviet-manufactured Scud-B missiles which Tehran has been using to attack Baghdad.

The break in diplomatic relations between Iraq and Libya highlights the realignment in Arab alliances which has been taking place since the outbreak of the Gulf War in September 1980.

Iraq, which before 1980 had considered Libya and the other members of the so-called "Steadfastness Front" to be insufficiently radical, has now become one of the key Arab "moderates." It has re-established relations with Egypt and is on good terms with Saudi Arabia and Jordan's Middle East peace initiative.

Iran, on the other hand, has sought to establish its bridgehead in the Arab world through the antagonism of Syria and Libya towards Iraq and through support for Palestinian terrorism against the leadership of Mr Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

PLEA TO KEEP SECURITY ISSUE SEPARATE FROM TRADE

Japan warns U.S. over defence pressures

BY JUREK MARTIN IN TOKYO

JAPAN is concerned that trade friction with the U.S. could spill over into what is considered here to be "counter-productive" American pressure for higher Japanese defence spending.

Mr Koichi Kato, Director General of the Japanese Defence Agency, suggested yesterday that the consequences of such pressure, which he said had been significantly reduced over the last four to five years, could be to undermine the present public consensus behind the U.S.-Japan security treaty.

Mr Kato was in Washington on an official visit two weeks ago when the U.S. Senate passed a non-binding resolution calling on Japan to spend more on defence. He said he had told Mr Caspar Weinberger, his U.S. counterpart, that it was vital to avoid linking defence with other bilateral issues.

Economic friction, he said in Tokyo yesterday, here, tended to come and go every year or two whereas defence planning had to be considered on a 10- to 20-year cycle which was not susceptible to "abrupt changes."

He thought the U.S. Administration, but not necessarily Congress, understood the import-

ance of allowing Japan to make "autonomous" efforts to improve its defence capability.

Even though defence spending is likely to pass its controversial ceiling of 1 per cent of gross national product this summer, Mr Kato did not expect it would then rise rapidly.

Civilian control over the military, exercised through the Diet (parliament) precluded this, he said.

Mr Kato is widely seen as

one of the rising stars of Japanese politics. He is the second youngest head of the Defence Agency in its history. Educated in part at Harvard and a China specialist at the Foreign Ministry before becoming a Diet member in 1973, he is one of the most visible of the new breed of outward-looking Japanese politicians, though he notes, ruefully, that his rural constituency would rather he concentrate on domestic issues.

In an unusually frank analysis of Japan's strategic approach, he insisted that Japan was simply "continuing to study" the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) on the basis of publicly available American material. It had not, he said, defined a role for itself in SDI, nor would it unless and until approached by the U.S.

Some Japanese reports have suggested that the DA has already commissioned studies on a possible Japanese role.

He also doubted that defence relations with China would develop into anything approximating that now enjoyed exclusively with the U.S. Japan, he added, had no intention of forming part of a triangle, along with the U.S. and China, against the Soviet Union.

Exchanges of views with Nato countries could be placed in a similar category. "I believe the solidarity of free nations with common views is very important," he said, adding that he thought the lack of it had contributed to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. "But if the dialogue (with Nato) continues, its nature will be very different from that with the U.S."

Two years ago, Japan is understood to have made informal overtures to Nato for improved consultation, but was rebuffed by France. Since then, Japan has relied mostly on the U.S. for its window on Nato affairs, though exchanges of views with officials from other alliance countries, including the UK, have taken place.

Tanaka 'still a political force'

THE FAMILY OF Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the ailing former Prime Minister and king-maker, has begun a campaign to convince the Japanese public and his supporters that he is not finished as a political force, Jurek Martin writes.

They did so as the chief pretender to the throne, Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Finance Minister, convened the Diet meeting of his political allies as part of a strategy to run for the leadership of the governing party and thus become Prime Minister of Japan. The meeting attracted 52 MPs, the most yet.

This week a monthly magazine put out by his supporters published three photographs of Mr Tanaka taken by his family, purporting to show him recuperating from the stroke which laid him low in late February.

Superimposed on one of them is the caption "no retirement." All three show

Mr Tanaka sitting at a desk at home, apparently leaning through some papers. His right hand, which he said to be paralysed, is resting on his knee; a wheelchair is evident to one side. He looked gaunt and slim, compared with his old ruddy self.

Mr Takeshita initially commented inconspicuously that he thought they showed "post-illness impressions" but yesterday, at his group's meeting, more tactfully hoped for Mr Tanaka's full recovery.

Zimbabwe's white voters show little enthusiasm for election

BY OUR HARARE CORRESPONDENT

ZIMBABWE'S dwindling white community goes to the polls today to elect, maybe for the last time, a bloc of 20 MPs whose entrenched seats were guaranteed for 10 years under the independence constitution.

The outcome is almost irrelevant — save for one key issue. The bloc carries little weight in a 100-seat assembly, and a comfortable majority of the 80 black seats at stake in next week's round of voting are almost certain to be won by the ruling party, Mr Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu).

But for the 10-year duration of the constitution negotiated under British chairmanship at the Lancaster House talks in 1979, the whites have an effective veto over Mr Mugabe's off-stated intention to introduce a one-party state.

The constitution requires the support of all MPs for such a move, and neither the white MPs nor the representatives of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (Zapu) are ever likely to endorse such a proposal.

Important as this may be, it has not been enough to excite much election interest in a white community whose numbers have shrunk from the mid-1970s peak of 270,000 to perhaps 90,000, of

whom 32,500 have registered as voters compared to 2.5m black voters.

A one-party state is opposed by both white parties — the Conservative Alliance led by Mr Ian Smith, the former Prime Minister who led Rhodesia into a unilateral declaration of independence in 1965, and the loose coalition called the Independence Zimbabwe Group, which broke away from Mr Smith's party in 1982 and held 15 of the white seats in the last Parliament.

This may well reflect the views of most white voters, but other issues excite little interest in a community which lives as comfortably as ever.

For Mr Mugabe, who like Mr Nkomo opposed the provision of an entrenched bloc of seats, the performance of white MPs has probably been disappointing. Ideally, he would have liked to have co-opted them to his Government's side, winning their support for a one-party state.

Despite overtures (and giving a major Cabinet post, agriculture, to a white), the MPs and their potential successors seem set in their opposition, not least Mr Smith, now old and grey, and fighting what is surely his last political battle.

The election campaign between the two white groups

has progressively degenerated into a series of spiteful petty squabbles with neither side showing much difference in their policies.

Both have promised to vote against any move to amend the clause in the constitution guaranteeing white representation, which will need 70 positive votes in 1987 as against the 100 required now.

Mr Smith realises that the bloc of 20 white seats in the House of Assembly will need the support of 11 black MPs to beat off Government attempts to abolish the white seats after 1987.

He believes he can easily get this from any of the black opposition parties, notably Zapu. The abolition of white representation would result in the removal of 20 votes crucial for blocking one-party state legislation in 1990.

Zapu would not vote "itself out of existence," Mr Smith asserts.

Whether Mr Nkomo would be willing to vote to keep a system of representation that gives 20 seats in parliament an electorate which equals only 3 per cent of the black electorate, remains to be seen.

The outcome of the white voting today is difficult to predict, but observers give the independents the edge.

Controversial Hong Kong Bill passed

THE HONG KONG Government yesterday defied public opposition and passed a Bill designed to pave the way for more democracy and autonomy in the colony before it reverts to Chinese sovereignty. Reuters reports from Hong Kong.

Large chunks of the Legislative Council (powers and privileges) Bill had been cut after opposition from lawyers, pressure groups, labour unions and journalists who denounced it as an attempt to muzzle free speech. Fifty groups opposed to the Bill made a last-minute attempt to get its final reading delayed.

The Government said the Bill set out on paper existing powers of Hong Kong's top lawmaking body, which are now rooted in the British parliament, and would give a new-style Legislative Council a firm Hong Kong identity.

In October, 24 elected members will sit for the first time on a 56-member council. All are now government appointees. Opposition to the Bill centred on a clause, since scrapped, stating that anyone who defamed the council or reported its closed proceedings could be jailed for three years.

The Bill comes as political parties are beginning to emerge and the Government makes itself more representative before 1997 when Peking resumes sovereignty.

Air India 'failed to raise alarm' over suspect bags

BY BERNARD SIMON IN TORONTO

UNCERTAINTY OVER the precise responsibilities of airlines and government departments for airport security has emerged as a key issue in Canadian investigations of the Air India disaster and the almost simultaneous bomb blast in luggage unloaded off a Canadian Pacific flight in Tokyo.

Department of Transport officials said that they would have ordered more thorough checks of baggage loaded on Air India flight 182 if Air India had told them of three suitcases

which were held back by airline security guards in Montreal after X-ray checks.

The aircraft crashed off Ireland on Sunday with the loss of 329 lives.

Until tighter precautions were introduced this week, baggage placed in aircraft holds at Canadian airports was not normally subject to X-ray or other inspection, unless an airline specifically asked for such checks. No request was made for checks of luggage on the CP Air flight which originated in Vancouver.

House approves Bill to limit defence abuses

BY REGINALD DALE, U.S. EDITOR IN WASHINGTON

THE House of Representatives has voted overwhelmingly to crack down on defence contractors who bill the U.S. Government for unacceptable costs, such as parking tickets, club memberships and trips. The House also urged a steady increase in the number of defence contractors put out to competitive bidding and stiffened the conditions under which Pentagon employees could take jobs with defence contractors after leaving government service.

The votes followed a debate

in which numerous House members sharply criticised the Pentagon's procurement system and the ethics of defence contractors, many of whom are charged with criminal investigation for contracting abuses. The House plan must now be reconciled in conference negotiations with the Senate, which adopted a milder version last month.

Many members cited such notorious cases as the \$7,622 (£3,803) coffee machine and the \$640 toilet seat cover, but the main focus of the new penalties would be on companies that charge for items like entertainment, lobbying and promotion in addition to the actual cost of weapons systems.

Recent House hearings revealed that General Dynamics, the third largest U.S. defence contractor, had billed the

Government "overhead" charges for such items as baby-sitting, kennel fees for an executive's dog and a week-end trip by the company chairman by corporate jet.

The House plan would make individuals liable to fines of up to \$250,000 for knowingly submitting unacceptable claims and up to five years in jail for a second offence. Companies could be fined up to \$500,000.

Reflecting a widespread view in Congress, Mr Charles Schumer, a New York Democrat, said that publicity to items like the coffee machine had undermined public support for defence spending in much the same way that news stories in the 1970s about "Welfare mothers drinking vodka" had undermined support for programmes to help the poor.

U.S. bank auditors who have had discussions with the regulators say that it could have a significant impact in deferring earnings from Argentinian loans.

In the short term the impact will be limited because most Argentinian loans are on "non-accrual" basis and banks are not taking interest into their profit and loss account.

Bank rules tighter for Argentina

BY WILLIAM HALL IN NEW YORK

U.S. BANK regulators have tightened up the rules for accounting for Argentinian interest payments in a move which accountants believe could have a significant long term impact on U.S. bank earnings from the financially troubled country.

U.S. bankers, who have lent a total of \$3.5bn (£6.5bn) to Argentina, were yesterday trying to determine the significance of a confidential meeting of the Inter-Agency Country Exposure Review Committee (Icerc) earlier this month.

At the meeting U.S. bank regulators decided not to downgrade U.S. bank's Argentinian debt, although many independent analysts argued that there were good grounds for classifying Argentinian debt as at least "substandard" if not "value

impaired." The latter classification would have required U.S. banks to establish specific loan loss provisions.

It is understood that U.S. bank regulators decided to defer a decision on reclassifying Argentinian debt until the autumn because they did not want to take any public action which might imperil Argentinian support for a long term rescue package to salvage U.S. bank loans. On Tuesday Argentina paid a further \$520m to foreign banks bringing its public sector interest arrears current to February 28 1985.

Although U.S. bank regulators took no direct action they have issued a confidential letter which says that "banks should utilise conservative accounting treatment of interest payments received." Whether the wording of the directive is vague regulators have let it be known in

private conversation that they expect banks to take more conservative line in accounting for interest payments from Argentinian loans.

It appears the regulators want banks to use future Argentinian interest payments to reduce the principal of their loans outstanding or to increase their reserves for Argentinian loans. In both cases the impact will be to reduce their earnings from their Argentinian loans.

U.S. bank auditors who have had discussions with the regulators say that it could have a significant impact in deferring earnings from Argentinian loans. In the short term the impact will be limited because most Argentinian loans are on "non-accrual" basis and banks are not taking interest into their profit and loss account.

UN charter celebration marred by disharmony

By Our Foreign Staff

EAST-WEST disharmony, which has characterised UN debates for four decades, continued yesterday as representatives from more than 100 nations met in San Francisco to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the signing of the UN charter.

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, said that most member nations backed Soviet policies, and he blamed Washington for obstructing the organisation's goals.

"The world has now got accustomed to lending an attentive ear to every statement, every word, uttered in Moscow for the benefit of peace," he said in a speech issued in the Soviet capital.

He said the Soviet Union and its allies had made it possible to breathe life into the UN, "which was for long frozen by the icy winds of cold war... but the UN potential is far from being tapped in full... the empires are the forces fuelling the arms race, the forces of militarism and their address is well known."

His speech followed an incident earlier this week in which a U.S. representative walked out of a Moscow meeting accusing his hosts of insulting Washington. On Wednesday Mr Yevgeny Gerasimov, the Soviet representative to the UN, objected to remarks by Mr Vernon Walters, Washington's representative, in an anniversary speech.

In San Francisco, Sr Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary General, honoured three of the original signatories to the charter who attended the ceremony. They were Mr Charles Malik of Lebanon, Mr Harold Stassen of the U.S. and Mr Carlos Romulo of the Philippines.

Frank Gray, recently in Havana, assesses Soviet influence

Cuba goes to market in the West

"EL BUNKER" is the nickname Cubans have appended to the large concrete enclosure in the Havana suburb of Miramar which has served as the Soviet embassy in Cuba since May 8.

Its official opening was supposed to mark the 45th anniversary of the victory over fascism, but for Cubans "El Bunker" reminds them only of one thing — the military compound in neighbouring Nicaragua of the hated dictator Anastasio Somoza, before his overthrow in 1979.

The embassy is one of the largest office structures in Cuba. Architecturally, it bears no resemblance to the numerous villas used as foreign embassies that surround it. As such, many Cubans regard it, somewhat satirically, as a perfect symbol of the commanding and incongruous Soviet presence in America's back garden.

That presence is stronger than ever. Last year, for example, 86 per cent of Cuba's trade was tied up with the Comecon nations of Eastern Europe. The lynch-pins of the arrangements were the sale of most of Cuba's sugar to Comecon at prices six to seven times those of the currently-low world market value, and the guarantee by the Soviets to meet Cuba's energy needs. The value of that trade was worth pesos 908.1m (£765m) last year.

Without such a deal, there is little doubt that the revolution of Fidel Castro Ruz, now in its 25th year, would have foundered.

The trade-off, of course, is Soviet military influence in Cuba. This amounts to more than 2,000 Soviet military advisers and between 6,000 to 8,000 civilian personnel, all of whom mean a considerable underwriting of Cuba's defence requirements.

Yet Cuban Government officials are clearly signalling that Soviet economic influence has peaked and will now be subjected to a small but steady displacement for the rest of the decade.

The Banco Nacional de Cuba couches the reason in friendly language. Its recent annual report said Cuba wanted to complement its Comecon trade with more trade activity with the West. Such trade "expresses Cuba's willingness to maintain an open approach to relations and trade with the whole world and honours the confidence bestowed on Cuba by its creditors."

President Castro, however, has made the point more sharply, pointing out that Cuba must boost its imports from the West of raw materials, spare parts and medium-range technology if it is to meet its

end of this year. Western bank officials say. About \$348m of this latter total would pay for imports.

The main impediment to more export credits, however, is Cuba's faster growth of its trade with the West as its indebtedness to Western creditors.

In September 1982, Cuba began renegotiating some \$1.2bn, or about one-third, of its Western debt. It has been a model of correctness in meeting its repayment commitments, and hopes this record will ease Paris Club requirements that it goes slow on hard currency imports.

Cuba must proceed carefully in implementing its broadened trade programme because of its growing deficits with both Comecon and Western nations.

Last year, its total trade with Comecon was worth pesos 10.9bn, with imports at pesos 6.05bn, compared with exports of pesos 4.8bn. For a deficit of pesos 1.18bn. The 1983 deficit with Comecon was pesos 649m. Trade with the West totalled pesos 1.7bn, with exports at pesos 569.3m and imports at pesos 1.14bn, for a trade deficit of pesos 579m, up sharply from the 1983 deficit of pesos 45.8m.

The Banco Nacional report envisages a 7 per cent increase in non-sugar exports of 20 per cent this year over last year and an increase to the convertible currency areas by roughly 30 per cent.

The attainment of those

export targets in the short-term remain formidable. Cuba's non-Comecon sugar exports (about 60 per cent of its 8m tonnes annual production) remain seriously hampered by the low world price of the commodity.

Export opportunities are also curbed by Cuba's non-membership in the Lomé Convention, which gives Third World countries preference in selling into the EEC. Cuban officials agree the Lomé Convention issue should be examined again, but the country's ability to move on this is limited by its membership of Comecon.

When Spain joins the EEC next year those exports for which Cuba is well known, such as cigars and rum, will be subjected to stiff tariffs. Spain is the only major Western market with whom Cuba enjoys a trade surplus.

A joint venture law was passed in 1982 but remains comparatively dormant due to Cuban uncertainty about how far to allow foreign participation in nationalised industries.

The Soviet Union now takes about half Cuba's annual nickel production of 40,000 tonnes but opportunities to expand Western exports through increased production at Comecon-financed mills are far behind schedule.

A more optimistic picture emerges from fishing, which has been a source of substantial investment in the last decade. Cuba with a fleet of 298 vessels, has one of the largest fishing fleets in the Caribbean. The Government also has set a sales target of 1.3m tonnes of citrus fruit for 1985, half of which is for export. It has displaced tobacco as Cuba's second largest agricultural goods export.

The Government's numerous export agencies are putting great effort into promoting the country's manufactured goods, mainly agricultural and medium-technology industrial goods, but the market potential for these is mainly within the region or in other Third World countries.

WORLD TRADE NEWS

Japan consortium in line for Bombay port contract

BY JOHN ELLIOTT IN NEW DELHI

A CONSORTIUM of seven Japanese trading houses and construction companies is in line to win a major Rs 1.1bn (£73m) contract on Bombay's Nhava Sheva Port project, defeating international competition by a wide margin.

A British consortium of Pauling-Costain is among the unsuccessful bidders, along with Hyundai of Korea which was originally expected by Indian experts to undercut all the opposition.

The current international shortage of construction work brought in bids considerably lower than had been expected. The consulting engineers, Howe India, had estimated the contract value would be Rs 1.6bn.

But the combined strength of

virtually all Japan's leading construction companies produced the lowest figure of Rs 1.1bn. The companies involved are led by Mitsui and Company. The others are Penta-Ocean, Shimizu, Kajima, Tokai, Okura, and Mitsubishi Corporation.

Next lowest was Hyundai with a bid of Rs1.3bn. Most of the rest of the tenderers, including Constain-Pauling, were between Rs1.4bn and Rs1.5bn. The highest was Spie Batagnolle of France at over Rs2bn and the second highest was Skanska of Sweden.

The contract is two years behind schedule, partly because the World Bank, which is putting up about Rs3bn of the Rs5bn total project cost, insisted on the size of the project

being scaled down by about 25 per cent.

Then French company initiated lengthy legal proceedings after it was disqualified from the tender lists.

The initial contract, for which the Japanese consortium has been recommended to the World Bank, includes constructing 600 metres of container berths and 700 metres of bulk and other berths as well as roads and paved areas.

Other contracts on the project to go out to tender soon, include Rs1bn worth of mechanical and civil engineering work for bulk handling facilities, Rs300m for container handling facilities, and Rs80m for an electrical power system. A Rs300m dredging contract will follow later.

Norway and Denmark fight truck tax war

By Hilary Barnes in Copenhagen

A TRUCK tax "war" has broken out between Denmark and Norway following a decision by Denmark to impose a tax of DKK 1.5 per kilometre on Norwegian lorries using Danish roads.

This will cost about DKK 500 (£35) for a Norwegian lorry travelling from a north Jutland ferry terminal to the Danish border.

The Norwegian Government responded on Tuesday by announcing that it will increase the existing kilometre tax on Danish lorries using Norwegian roads and use the proceeds to reimburse the Norwegian truckers for the Danish tax.

The dispute is a long-standing one and arises from the difference in the vehicle tax systems in the two countries.

The Danes use a weight tax on vehicles registered in Denmark, the Norwegians use a kilometre tax of Nkr2 per kilometre, which in principle applies to all lorries, domestic and foreign.

This means that Danish lorries on trips to Norway pay tax, while the Norwegians use the Danish roads free of charge.

The Danish Government has tried for years to persuade the Norwegians to exempt Danish lorries from the tax. Lorries from several Central European countries, including West Germany, are already exempted.

The new Danish tax, from July 1, was imposed in exasperation at the refusal of the Norwegians to meet the Danish demands, which the Danes suspect is simply because the Danish lorries are the main competitors of the Norwegian trucking companies in export business.

Denmark's Tax Minister, Mr Ivar Folghed, said yesterday that he hoped a sensible agreement would finally be reached.

There appears to be a limit to the tax which the Danes could impose without causing the Norwegians to bypass Denmark altogether by sending their trucks on ferries with a direct connection to West Germany.

Bechtel shares in CS2.1bn power order

By Bernard Simon in Toronto

A CONSORTIUM led by Kumagai-Gumi of Japan and the Canadian subsidiary of Bechtel, the U.S. construction group, has won the main construction contract for the CS2.1bn (£12bn) Limestone hydro-electric scheme on the Nelson River in North-East Manitoba.

The CS2.1bn contract includes construction of a powerhouse and dam for the project, which will ultimately supply 1,200 megawatts to utilities in the U.S. and Canada.

Power generation is due to start in 1990. The Limestone scheme is understood to be the largest construction project under way in North America.

Mr Marc Ellesen, chairman of the Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board, said the Kumagai-Bechtel bid was significantly lower than original cost estimates, reflecting fierce competition among construction companies.

Low bids for a number of the scheme's contracts have cut the cost of the project from more than CS2.5bn to CS2.1bn.

Bechtel and Kumagai have considerable experience in Canada, Kumagai helping to build the Rogers Pass highway tunnel through the Rocky Mountains.

MP puts squeeze on 'risky' lemons

By Ivor Owen

BRIGHT and shiny lemons might be a new yellow peril. Mr Simon Hughes, a Liberal MP for a London constituency, warned the House of Commons yesterday.

He said research carried out by London University had established that some lemons being sold in London were a potential health hazard because they had been sprayed with a fungicide to make them "yellow, shiny and appealing."

Mr Hughes explained that the internationally accepted safety limit for the fungicide was 10 parts per million. In the case of the lemons examined by London University, the ratio had been 200 parts per million.

He suggested that MPs who liked a slice of lemon in their gin and tonic might find themselves affected by an unpleasant chemical reaction as the alcohol dissolved the wax and released the fungicide into their drink.

Mr Hughes joined with other MPs in pressing for more information to be made available to the public about the dangers associated with chemicals and sprays used on foodstuffs.

The present unsatisfactory position, he said, had been demonstrated by an official at the Ministry of Agriculture, who, when asked about the constituents of the fungicide used on the lemons, replied "I am sorry. We cannot tell you. It is governed by the Official Secrets Act."

Mrs Peggy Fenner, Under-Secretary for Agriculture, quickly reassured her colleagues on both sides of the House.

She said it would be necessary to drink "large quantities" of gin and tonic containing slices of lemon of the type described by Mr Hughes before any adverse effect was suffered. To laughter, she added: "They would be much more at risk from cirrhosis of the liver."

Mrs Fenner said amendments to the Food and Environment Protection Bill tabled by the Government would enable the public to be provided with adequate information, while observing the need to preserve the necessary degree of commercial confidentiality needed to protect the interests of the manufacturers of the products concerned.

She was confident that the Bill would make it possible for the "overwhelming majority of inquiries" about the contents of sprays and drugs used on foodstuffs to be satisfied.

Royal buys Lloyd's Life Assurance for £94m

BY ERIC SHORT

ROYAL INSURANCE, one of Britain's largest composite insurance groups, yesterday emerged as the successful bidder for Lloyd's Life Assurance.

It is paying £94m in cash for the unit-linked life company put up for sale in February by the committee of Lloyd's of London, the insurance market.

Royal is financing the transaction from its existing cash resources and banking facilities. It is not making a vendor share placing - financing the purchase by selling new shares at a discount to selected institutions.

Lloyd's Life was established in 1971 to provide members of Lloyd's with the chance to participate in long-term life and pensions business - a field in which they cannot operate directly. However, the success of Lloyd's Life, with funds of over £300m under management, has posed problems for the members.

The value of shareholdings held by underwriting agents was starting to exceed the 14 per cent limit, while future development of Lloyd's Life could well require further capital that the existing shareholders were not prepared to put up.

The committee of Lloyd's therefore decided to sell the company. Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank which handled the sale, drew up a short list of six potential buyers. It is believed that Royal was the only UK institution on that list.

In general, UK companies have refused to participate in bidding for those UK life companies up for sale in recent years, claiming that the sellers are asking "fancy prices" for the deal. Indeed, the last accounts of Lloyd's Life for the year to September 30, 1984, valued the company at £48m.

Mr Alan Horsford, Royal's chief executive, emphasised that it was paying a fair price for Lloyd's Life. Royal had been given access to all records and accounts of the company and been able to interview free-lance management.

Mr Hughes joined with other MPs in pressing for more information to be made available to the public about the dangers associated with chemicals and sprays used on foodstuffs.

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"We liked what we saw of the company, its management, its marketing and its products," stated Mr Horsford. "The acquisition fits in with Royal's strategic aim of expanding its life assurance operations."

Royal has been expanding its UK life operations over the past few years with particular emphasis on the unit-linked sector. Its funds amounting to £2.3bn. The acquisition of Lloyd's Life will just put the group into the top 10 largest life companies in the UK.

The intention is to operate Lloyd's Life as a separate company under the existing management, although the name will have to be changed.

The deal will dilute shareholders' earnings in the short-term. However, the market reaction was generally favourable and the 10p drop in the share price to 94½p reflected the general market weakness.

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Westland chief resigns

SIR BASIL BLACKWELL has stepped down as chairman of Westland, the troubled UK helicopter manufacturer.

His place has been taken by Sir John Cunneen, chairman of John Brown, the engineering group and a veteran of many company rescues.

Sir Basil, a director of Westland for the past 15 years but chairman only since February, said he had offered his resignation to the board in the interest of the company and its 12,000 employees.

He added, however: "This was not my decision. It was the decision of those on whom we depend for money. I declined to elaborate further on whether pressure had been brought by Westland's bankers."

Westland is at present in the slipstream of an attempted CDO takeover bid from Bristol Rotocraft, a specially-created company set up by Mr Alan Bristow, founder of Bristol Helicopters, the helicopter operators.

Earlier this month Bristow said he would not go ahead with the bid, apparently because Westland's financial position was worse than Bristow first thought.

On Tuesday, Westland said it had called in accountants Price Waterhouse to review its operations.

Sir Basil's resignation was seen by many in the City of London as a pre-requisite for re-establishing Westland's badly-dented credibility.

HOVERSPED, the cross-Channel hovercraft operator, is well in line for its first profit since its formation through a merger three years ago.

First half losses, traditionally high for ferry operators as a result of the slack winter season, were sharply down. The outlook for the critical months of July and August was encouraging and the company was "right on target to make a profit," Mr Gerry Draper, deputy chairman, said.

Sealink, the cross-Channel operator bought last year by Bermuda-based Sea Containers for £68m, recently said its first quarter loss was £19.3m (£15m), some £1.4m worse than forecast.

THE GOVERNMENT had a majority of 168 on the second reading of the European Communities (Finance) Bill despite many abstentions and a rebellion by 19 Tory MPs who voted with the Opposition.

The Bill opens the way for Britain to join other EEC member states in increasing the Community's "own resources" by increasing contributions from 1 per cent to 1.4 per cent of value-added tax receipts.

BRITISH Petroleum (BP) appears to have made a significant gas discovery off the Irish coast. It said that the well drilled in May to a depth of 1,370 feet had produced "encouraging" flows of gas at a rate of 13.7m cubic feet a day. The well, less than 20 miles from the Cork coast, is only 12 miles from Ireland's only other commercial gas field at Kinsale Head.

APPROVAL FOR up to 20 experimental community radio stations throughout the UK is expected to be announced early next month by Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary.

The aim will be to see whether a new "third tier" of radio serving local communities or communities of interest, such as ethnic minorities, can be viable without damaging existing local radio stations.

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Argentina warned on Iraqi deal

BY JIMMY BURNS IN BUENOS AIRES

ARGENTINA has been warned by one of its major trading partners, Iran, that it risks losing major export orders if it goes ahead with a \$120m (£100m) arms sale to Iraq.

But the warning, which came to be not the only reason behind the Argentine Government's decision to postpone indefinitely the sale of 20 Pucara ground-attack aircraft with the option on 40 more which has been the subject of negotiations with the Iraqis for at least the last two months.

Iranian trade officials said in Buenos Aires that they had notified the Government of Raul Alfonsín that commercial relations with Tehran would suffer serious damage, if the Pucara contract was signed.

It is understood that the "damage" would include the cancellation of further purchases of Argentine commodities

particularly cereals which last year totalled nearly \$600m. At present, the Argentine National Grain Board has an order from Iran for the supply of 750,000 tonnes of wheat and 720,000 tonnes of maize for delivery before March 1986, with options on additional sales of 150,000 and 120,000 respectively.

An Argentine trade mission is expected in Tehran over the next month to negotiate further orders for other agricultural products such as rice and soy.

The Iranians have also expressed an interest in counter-trade deals involving the sale of petroleum to Argentina to make up for a temporary shortfall in the country's oil production.

The more ideological members of the Alfonsín camp have argued strongly that to sell

arms to a war zone would be an open violation of the country's neutralist stance.

A close aide of Sr Dante Caputo, Argentina's Foreign Minister, confirmed on Monday that the minister was against selling military equipment to sensitive zones such as the Gulf.

Leading the pro-Pucara camp have been officials and deputies linked to the northern province of Córdoba, and the Air Force.

This lobby has claimed in recent weeks that the \$120m sale needed as a vital life-line for the domestic arms industry.

The Air Force's industrial complex near Córdoba, the Fabrica Militar de Aviones (FMA) has practically ground to a halt over the last year as a result of the Alfonsín Government's drastic curbs on defence spending and a lack of an officially-backed export policy.

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Bechtel and Kumagai have considerable experience in Canada, Kumagai helping to build the Rogers Pass highway tunnel through the Rocky Mountains.

Export curb Bill clears hurdle

BY NANCY DUNNE IN WASHINGTON

THE long-delayed legislation governing U.S. export controls finally passed a House-Senate Conference Committee late on Tuesday - more than a year after the two chambers had locked on the controversial Bill.

The Export Administration Act (EAA) now goes back to both Houses then the President for an expected final approval.

Since last March, when the last EAA expired, the Reagan Administration has been able to control strategic trade only because the President invoked powers granted him under the International Economic Emergency Powers Act.

Meanwhile, much of the controversy over the Act has been resolved through administrative decisions.

The strife between



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THE CREATIVE USE OF MONEY

TECHNOLOGY

EDITED BY ALAN CANE

All pull together for more powerful processing

Teamwork can produce faster computing, reports Peter Marsh

A POWERFUL computer called Butterfly, developed mainly under contracts for the U.S. Department of Defense is about to go to work, so its American inventors hope, in a variety of commercial applications including telecommunications, factory automation and intelligent office equipment.

The 15-year development of Butterfly has been the result of a total research effort worth about \$25m, according to the estimate of Mr Gary Schmitt, manager of the project at Bolt, Beranek and Newman, a company in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

A large proportion of the cash has come from the Defense Advanced Projects Research Agency (Darpa), an agency of the Pentagon. "The Darpa money has been the driving force behind the project," says Mr Schmitt, whose company is starting to evaluate the commercial markets for the machine.

Butterfly is an example of what is called a parallel processor. Whereas virtually all com-

puters in current use digest instructions serially—one at a time—parallel processors work on many sequences of calculations at the same time.

The trick is to mesh together a number of processing chips—Butterfly can include up to 128—so that they work away on separate computations but at the same time keep in touch with what amounts to their own telecommunications network.

The network that keeps the chips in contact uses a technology called packet-switching in which small packages of data are sent in pulses along wires.

The Cambridge company played a key part in the development of packet switching in the late 1960s. In another contract for the Pentagon, it produced a telecommunications network, called Arpanet, that used packet-switching technology to link military and scientific centres.

Bolt, Beranek and Newman formed a subsidiary called Tenet (later sold to GTE) that in the 1970s planners applied to the technology in com-

mercial data networks.

Linked up by their miniature packet-switched network, each processing unit in a Butterfly system (the computer uses M88000 chips made by Motorola) works on a specific computational problem. Sets of software commands embedded in the system co-ordinate each chip and makes sure it does its job properly, just as a musical conductor would seek to supervise the disparate elements of an orchestra.

The software ensures that individual processors given a particularly difficult problem hand out sections of the work to counterparts that are less overloaded. In a similar way, colleagues in an office would share out chores to prevent one person from becoming deluged with clerical tasks.

As a result, the total system is not slowed down as a result of hold-ups in one element of the computer.

Providing all the processors work in harmony, the result is very fast computer speeds pro-

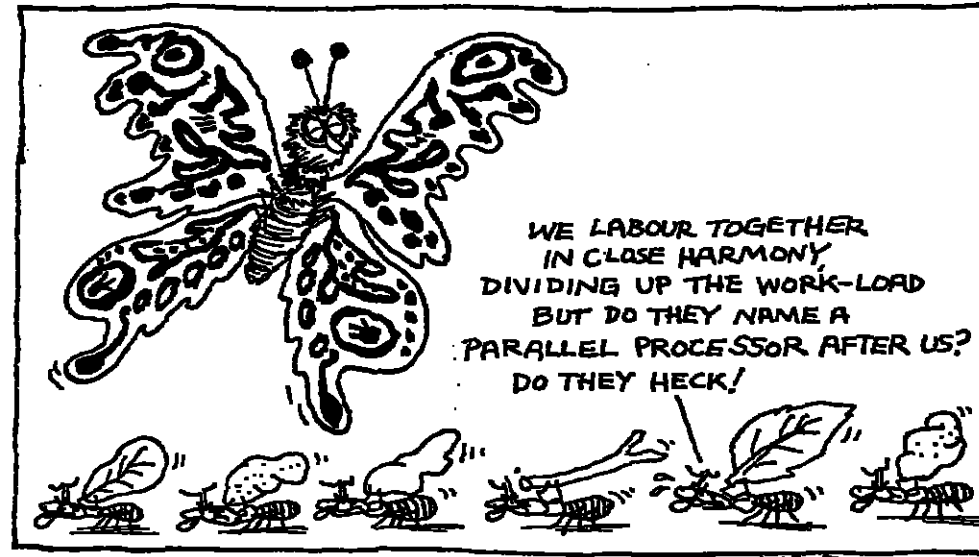
vided relatively cheaply. A Butterfly that comprises 100 chips operating in parallel and which costs \$300,000-\$400,000 can digest 50m computer instructions a second, says Mr Schmitt.

To obtain a similar amount of computing power based on conventional machines that operate serially could cost about 25 times, according to Mr Schmitt's calculations.

Darpa has funded the work both to prove that the technology on which Butterfly is based can work and also for specific items of hardware that Bolt, Beranek and Newman has delivered as part of its contracts. Over the next few years, the Cambridge company is due to provide the Pentagon agency with 10 Butterflies.

Darpa will use some of these in its \$150m-a-year Strategic Computing Initiative, which aims to boost the development of novel computing techniques for a mixture of military and civilian goals (see panel).

The ownership of the tech-



nology, meanwhile, remains with the Cambridge company, leaving it free to exploit Butterfly know-how in commercial applications. "The arrange-

ment with Darpa is of mutual benefit," says Mr Schmitt.

Mr Schmitt says that Butterfly should appeal to a variety of commercial customers which need large amounts of computing power. These include companies that are devising vision systems for inspection of goods in manufacturing. In such hardware, computers have to interpret very quickly rapid sequences of images on a TV screen.

Another application is in artificial intelligence, or techniques to give computers reasoning powers approaching those of people. In this, high-speed processing is required for tasks

such as language translation or sorting of information in big data bases.

So far, the Cambridge company has produced 16 Butterfly machines, of which about four are in the possession of Darpa. The Pentagon agency, for example, has one 128-chip Butterfly with which, in collaboration with other industrial partners, it is devising software that can run on similar parallel processors.

Other Butterflies have been handed to university researchers while others are incorporated in Government communications networks (some of the military-oriented).

The networking facilities provided include electronic mail, shared filing, printing and communications services. Xenonics has recently supplied large in-house networking systems for the Cabinet Office, BP Oil, GKN, the Midland Bank and ICI. More on 01-637 8831.

New link-up for IBM computers

ANY NUMBER of IBM personal computers (PCs) at different sites can be linked using a network system devised by Xenonics, part of the Smiths Industries group.

Any user can then exchange information with any other, easily and instantaneously, with password security. Sites can be miles apart and the system can handle thousands of computers at once if necessary.

Up to eight PCs or compatible microcomputers can be connected to each Xenonics processor box, the Micro-node, which costs about \$4,700. Each Micro-node in turn can be connected to any number of other similar boxes by means of switching units costing about \$700 each. Installation is claimed to be simple and inexpensive using private or switched telephone lines.

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Robot deal boosts sales

A U.S. company specialising in robot vision has quadrupled sales after signing a \$60m contract over five years to supply expertise to an industrial robot enterprise established by General Motors and France's International Robotization Intelligence, whose British subsidiary is in Solihull, says the contract helped to lift sales in the past year to \$2.4m. Lawrence Goshorn, president of IRI, says that, according to industry analysts, annual sales of robot-vision products will grow to \$1bn over the next five years.

Design aid from Fujitsu

FUJITSU Microcomputer Systems, a UK microcomputer division of the Japanese computer company, has announced a new version of its FMS16 16-bit microcomputer which can be used for computer-aided design.

Fujitsu, whose British base is in Maidenhead, Berkshire, is offering on its microcomputers Autocad and TurboCad, two sets of software for two-dimensional computer aided design.

Why computerised design needs a common language

THE USE OF computers in engineering design and manufacturing has brought great benefits, particularly in the car and aerospace industries.

But attempts to press ahead with this technology are being hampered by the lack of a common standard that would allow each company's computer aided design and manufacturing system to communicate directly with suppliers, clients or subcontractors which may have different computer equipment.

Now Leeds University has stepped into the growing debate on finding a common standard for exchanging data by computer by setting up a £200,000-a-year technical centre using the Initial Graphic Exchange Specification (IGES).

The aim of IGES is to enable product data to be exchanged in computer readable form between different systems. The data held in one computer is first converted into the IGES format and then translated from this into the data format required by the receiving system.

Last year, the National Economic Development Office (NEDO), which is promoting

the centre, produced guidelines for the exchange of two-dimensional drawings with text. These guidelines aim to help companies get the best use of computer-based data when communicating with other divisions, suppliers, clients and subcontractors who may have different systems.

Leeds University is now extending these guidelines to include the transmission of information contained in tables, for example bills of materials, and hopes eventually to provide guidelines to cover three-dimensional models. The present guidelines have been developed for the process plant and engineering construction industries, but the centre aims to attract other sectors, such as building and construction, the motor industry and aerospace.

These sectors all have their own groups working on graphic data exchange, each with their own peculiar requirements.

ICI, one of the companies represented on NEDO's committee on computer design, does not yet exchange data with outside contractors. "We haven't wanted to risk a project because of the quality of IGES

Alistair Guild finds industry hampered by the inability of different computers to talk to each other

software," says Dr Tony Foord, of the company's design systems group. ICI hopes to test graphic data exchange on a small-scale project using the IGES format later this year having successfully transferred schematic diagrams using IGES from its DOGS system to an Intergraph system used by Bechtel Great Britain.

Furthermore, a group of companies from the motor industry, including Austin Rover, Birkhys Plastics, Ford, GKN, GT Tools and Lucas, has committed itself to support the framework of existing IGES standards.

But other industries have decided that IGES is not yet good enough, particularly for international scale projects. The British aerospace industry has had discussions with other

European aerospace companies to formulate a common strategy for data exchange for collaborative projects, for example the A320, the latest European Airbus development.

Data on the A320, running on DEC, IBM and Computer-Vision hardware is being exchanged between plants at Bristol, Toulouse and Hamburg.

"Current IGES translators are inadequate for our purposes," says Mr Barry Jackson, BAE's executive director for aircraft computing. "We have decided to use Standard d'Exchange et de Transfert (SET), a French standard developed with one of our partners, Aerospatiale. Although not so widely implemented as IGES, SET provides proven software on our range of work, with more efficient use of computing resources."

BP has gone one stage further, developing its own "completely new specification" as an alternative to IGES for use in large scale projects, such as oil rig design and construction.

According to Mr Pat Harrow, of BP International's Informa-

tion system services department, IGES has a number of inherent weaknesses:

- Graphical information is an important but small part of the information exchanged, but IGES cannot handle specifications and design details linked to graphics.
- At present IGES cannot extend files over one tape. To handle the information associated with the 250,000 drawings used for BP's Magnus platform would require the same number of tapes.
- None of the specifications can transfer complete libraries of components.
- IGES is based on the needs of light manufacturing, car and aerospace industries, so it does not meet many of the requirements of major construction and oil industry projects.
- In general, the IGES format has not been selected towards any particular industrial use. Various IGES sub-committees are working with groups in the U.S., UK, France and Germany to define "application specific" improvements.

Last year, the Information Technology Users' Standards Association was launched to try to influence standards. In the short term, the association is encouraging the use of IGES

Pentagon backs research into parallel computers

TECHNOLOGIES to promote parallel processing are to play a key part in the Strategic Computing Initiative, a programme that the Pentagon's Defence Advanced Projects Research Agency started last year.

Darpa is spending \$72m on the programme this year. The annual budget for the project, which is intended to last 10 years, is due to rise to \$150m by 1987.

According to Dr Craig Fields of Darpa, the programme is intended to promote development of computers for military projects.

For instance, although there is no formal link between the Darpa programme and the Pentagon's Strategic Defence Initiative (Star Wars), companies and research institutes working on the latter may well use in their activities technologies developed under the Darpa project.

Much of the cash is to be spent under the Strategic Computing Initiative which will fund research work in companies, which will be free to divert technologies that result to commercial goals.

The computing initiative has four main elements:

- Development of parallel processing techniques. Besides

Bolt, Beranek and Newman, Thinking Machines (another company in Cambridge) is working on a specific parallel processor, called the Connection Machine. The latter has up to 32,000 processors working in parallel.

- Work to artificial intelligence, for instance speech understanding, analysis of images and expert systems. The technologies could be applied to military systems that, for instance, aim to obtain useful information from a mass of data collected by sensors.
- Funding of big "demonstrator" projects that use novel computer techniques. These include development of an "unmanned land vehicle that would steer itself, in which Martin Marietta is the main contractor. Texas Instruments is working on a battle management system that would enable military commanders to plot the course of engagements on land, on sea or in space with computer simulation and modelling technologies. Other applications concern interpretation of radar information and computer hardware to feed information to pilots on fighter aircraft.
- Development of specific computer-related technologies such as chip design and optoelectronics.

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'All we have is IGES It has got to work'

and is sending systems suppliers a questionnaire to analyse their support for IGES.

"Pressure is being put on suppliers to provide good inwards and outwards translators. But we cannot demand good translators until there is a suitable international standard and an objective way of testing implementation," says Mr Ray Walker, secretary of an action group within the association.

In the long term, the association supports the concept of a new, more comprehensive international standard for computer data exchange.

The "supporters" of IGES trace many of the unfortunate experiences with IGES to a failure by companies to analyse how their data is generated.

"There will be no universal format and exchange medium suitable for all types of data," says Mr Roger Dobson, engineering manager of Bechtel Great Britain and secretary of the NEDO committee. "Just as there is a need for telephones and the post to exchange ideas in spoken, written and illustrated form so there is a need for different formats for machine readable exchange."

IGES specifies a format for graphical data exchange; difficulties in its use arise from interpretation of this specification and in misunderstanding its application.

And he adds: "All we've got is IGES. It must work... it has got to work."

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UK NEWS

Trident seen as threat to basic defence outlays

BY KEVIN BROWN

THE GOVERNMENT'S defence policy is founded on "delusions of nuclear grandeur," Field Marshal Lord Carver, the former Chief of the Defence staff, said in the House of Lords yesterday.

Lord Carver was among a number of peers who warned during a debate on defence policy that the Government's commitment to the Trident nuclear missile programme was a threat to spending on conventional forces.

Lord Trevelyan, the Under Secretary for the Armed Forces, insisted, however, that Trident would not strain the defence budget, and that the Government had ruled out a defence review.

Lord Carver said it was "clear as daylight" that the Government would have to clarify its priorities in order to obtain the best value from the £18bn defence budget. Maintaining the effectiveness of British forces would be a constant struggle within the financial limits which the present Government, or any future administration, was likely to provide, he said.

In addition, the Government had severely squeezed the defence bud-

get by dropping its commitment to increase spending by 3 per cent a year in real terms, and by pursuing the Trident programme. "Why does the Government obstinately persist in wasting money on the so-called British nuclear deterrent?" he asked.

Lord Carver said the justification for a strategic nuclear deterrent included in the Government's defence white paper (policy document) was "absurd." "Our ballistic missile submarines are not an essential element of NATO strategy," he said.

"Whether they are regarded as an addition to the forces assigned to the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, or as an independent force they are superfluous and a waste of money. The essential element is the stationing of U.S. conventional land and air forces on the Continent."

Lord Boston said defence policy was bound to lead to cuts in future spending, probably on conventional forces. He said the Government's estimate of £9.25bn for the cost of Trident was conservative, and he complained that the proportion of spending projected within the UK had already fallen from 70 per cent to 55 per cent.

Record £12,000 paid for single bottle of claret

BY EDMUND PENNING-ROWSELL

A SINGLE bottle of the famous 1811 Comet-year Lafite was sold yesterday in London to a private Swiss buyer for £12,000. It was the highest price for a single bottle of wine sold at a UK auction. A similar bottle was sold in Paris in April at a slightly lower price.

The sale yesterday by the new Anglo-American wine auction concern attracted many U.S. and continental bidders. It was remarkable for the exceptional range of famous chateau names, celebrated vintages and large-format bottles.

Best prices were paid for the older and very young top growths, but were not outstanding for middle-rank classed-growth clarets, with sale prices generally at the lower end of rather high estimates.

After a bottle of Lafite 1870 made £1,450, a run of top '45 sold at high levels: Lafite £2,000 (for six bottles); Lafite £1,750 (for six bottles); Mouton-Rothschild £540 (1 bottle); and Ch. Margaux £340 (1 bottle).

Pétrus continued its exceptional record with the following prices for single bottles of favoured vintages: '34 (£480), '45 (£320), '33 (£300), and '31 (£300), with cases of the young '75 and '78 going for £2,000 and £1,250.

It was the top '32s that fetched the most surprisingly high prices per case: Lafite (£900), Mouton-Rothschild (£880), Trotanoy (£880), Lafite (£840), Cheval-Blanc (£880) and Pétrus (£1,200 for six bottles).

Corporate sector earned highest financial surplus last year

BY PHILIP STEPHENS AND MAX WILKINSON

A SURGE in company profits gave Britain's corporate sector a record financial surplus in 1984, although rising costs put profit margins on domestic sales under some pressure towards the end of the year.

Study by the Bank of England, to be published tomorrow in its Quarterly Bulletin, indicates that the gross trading profits of British companies climbed by £3.3bn to £51.5bn last year.

The result was a further increase in the share of profits in national output to 18½ per cent compared with only 13 per cent four years earlier.

Rising profits have also been reflected in a strong increase in the return on capital employed in the corporate sector. The Bank says that the pre-tax profitability of non-North Sea corporate activity averaged 7 per cent in 1984, its highest since 1973 and double the level in 1981.

The study adds that the growth in profits reflected higher output and a widening of margins, particularly on exports. A 10 per cent fall in the value of the pound during the year provided companies with the opportunity both to increase sales volume and to widen profit margins, with export revenues rising by 15 per cent.

The Bank says, however, that the impact of sterling's fall on raw material prices and an acceleration in unit wage costs, almost certainly eroded domestic margins late in the year.

The financial surplus of industrial and commercial companies last year is estimated at £9.6bn, a record in both nominal and inflation-adjusted terms.

The study says, however, that deficiencies in the collection of statistics makes it difficult to interpret the financial behaviour of the corporate sector. Particularly puzzling is the fact that despite the sharp rise in profits, companies continued

to borrow heavily from the banks. ● Leading investment fund managers in the UK earned about £450m last year.

The results, published in the Bulletin, suggest that the firms managed funds worth more than £130bn at the end of last year, of which £100m was for UK residents.

The survey, of 128 fund managers, showed that pension funds were the main clients and that accepting houses were the most active group managers.

The Bank says that the diversification of U.S. Canadian and Japanese pension fund portfolios could bring opportunities for further expansion of fund management business to London.

● A surge in clearing bank lending in April was largely the result of increased demand for funds from leasing companies. The Bank's analysis shows that lending to leasing companies rose by £1.2bn in the three months to May.

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Public funds lost in grant-aided factory

BY LISA WOOD

A PARLIAMENTARY committee which monitors public spending has criticised the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce for its failure to reclaim a substantial number of grants paid to a textiles factory which closed within a few years of opening.

A report from the all-party public accounts committee investigated the repayment of grants totalling £20.6m paid by the Northern Ireland department to Courtaulds for a new synthetic fibre manufacturing plant at Campsie, County Londonderry.

The plant opened in 1976 but because of poor market conditions ceased production in 1981 without ever reaching its employment target of 1,500. "The employment benefit to Northern Ireland from the investment of this public money was both less than expected and short-lived," said the report.

Assistance given to the factory came in three forms with different

conditions attached to repayment should the factory close within a specified period. Courtaulds paid an initial request for £2m but queried a £1.8m repayment on the capital assets grant. The department then realised it had misinterpreted certain of the repayment conditions and recalculated the sum to be recovered as £8.2m but agreed to settle for £2.6m.

Later, however, after consulting the Industries Development Advisory Committee, the department raised its claim to £3.9m. Courtaulds disputed this and a subsequent settlement was reached at £2.125m.

The committee said: "We must express concern that it was the department's ambiguous grant repayment conditions which mitigated against the recovery of an appropriate proportion of the substantial investment of public funds in this project."

TSB rises in ranking of banks' net income

By David Lascoll

THE YORKSHIRE Bank held its position as the UK's most profitable bank last year. But new to second place was the TSB Group, which is due to be floated on the London stock market next winter.

In its annual ranking of UK bank profitability, IBCA, the London credit analysis company, showed the TSB rising from eighth place in 1983, measured on the basis of net income after tax to assets.

Yorkshire Bank, which is owned by Barclays, NatWest, Lloyds and the Royal Bank of Scotland, has headed the list for several years, and managed to hold its position last year despite the impact of the miners' strike.

Most of the UK's largest banks came at the middle of the list or lower down. IBCA says that the pressure on profits and capital suffered by the big UK banks last year led to unfavourable comparisons of both profitability and capital strength with the largest U.S. banks.

IBCA says that UK banks have become "the milch cows" for the Treasury because of recent tax measures.

If the banks respond to urgings from the Bank of England to make large provisions against sovereign risk, it says, they should be given more generous tax allowances.

In France, West Germany, Switzerland and Sweden, the provisions recommended by the regulatory authorities are tax allowable.

UK BANK PROFITABILITY

Net income as % of average assets 1984

1. Yorkshire Bank	1.58
2. TSB Group	0.89
3. Co-operative Bank	0.74
4. Ulster Bank	0.73
5. Williams & Glyn's	0.65
6. Bank of Scotland	0.61
7. Lloyds Bank	0.57
8. Royal Bank of Scotland	0.55
9. Clydesdale Bank	0.54
10. Northern Bank	0.46
11. Barclays Bank	0.45
12. NatWest Bank	0.45
13. Standard Chartered Bank	0.44
14. Coutts & Co	0.37
15. Midland Bank	-0.04
16. Grindlays Bank	-0.98

Source: IBCA Banking Analysis

HEARING CONCLUDED AT EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Government accused of being inflexible

BY RAYMOND HUGHES, LAW COURTS CORRESPONDENT, IN STRASBOURG

THE BRITISH Government was yesterday accused of turning a blind eye to the financial consequences to shareholders of the nationalisation of companies in the aircraft and shipbuilding industries.

Counsel for the former shareholders told the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg that the Conservative Government had compounded the unfair conduct of the Labour administration which took the companies into public ownership in 1977.

"While lamenting the grossly unfair treatment of the shareholders, it has said it would be impractical to redress the balance," said Mr Anthony Lester, QC.

The Government had been unreasonably rigid and inflexible and stubbornly refused to link the method by which expropriated shares had been valued to the practical consequences for shareholders, he said.

Eleven former shareholders, who say that their £125m compensation was grossly inadequate, have asked the court to rule that the manner in

which they were deprived of their holdings violated property rights guaranteed by Article 1 to the First Protocol of the European Human Rights Convention. They claim more than £455m in extra compensation and interest.

The Government contends that the UK acted in accordance with the law and its obligations under the Convention.

The shareholders' claim was rejected by the European Human Rights Commission last year and came to Strasbourg for a final ruling by the court.

The case was concluded yesterday and it is expected that the 19 judges will give their decision later this year.

The shareholders are: Sir William Lithgow, who held a substantial holding in John G. Kincaid & Company; Vosper, in respect of its subsidiaries Vosper Thornycroft (UK) and Vosper Shipbuilders; English Electric Company and Vickers, which jointly owned British Aircraft Corporation (Holding); Vickers, in respect of its subsidiary

Vickers Shipbuilding Group; Yarrow, which owned Yarrow (Shipbuilders); Dowsett Securities, Investors in Industry and the Prudential Assurance Company, which were joint owners of Brooke Marine, an East Anglian shipbuilding company; and Bantamian Company and Northern Shipbuilding & Industrial Holdings, which owned Hall Russells & Company.

Mr Lester said that the Government now accepted that Article 1 not only required that the compensation method should be appropriate but also that compensation should be real and not illusory.

But, he said, it obstinately refused to link those principles, concentrating entirely upon the method rather than the consequences in terms of what was paid and the property for which it was paid.

The shareholders' complaint is that their unquoted shares were valued on the basis of a hypothetical stock exchange quotation over a six-month period to February 1974, and not on their market value at nationalisation in 1977.

Mr Lester said the Government's assertion that it was a well-known and respected valuation method misconceived the shareholders' complaint.

They did not complain about the 1977 Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act - the nationalising legislation - in the abstract. Their objection was that, as applied, it resulted in the payment of compensation which was not reasonably related to the value of their property when it was taken.

"The abstract and theoretical nature of the Government's defence is vividly illustrated by its refusal to look at the actual disparities between what we say our property was worth in 1977 and what we were paid for it," Mr Lester said.

"The Government declares majestically that it is 'inappropriate'. But how else can someone seek justice under Article 1 except by attempting to quantify the imbalance between what he has been paid and what he says is the real value of his property?"

The Government contended that its Convention duty was fulfilled if,

when the compensation criteria were chosen, they appeared reasonably to relate compensation to the shares' value at the time.

He said the Government had been unreasonably rigid and inflexible in its failure to modify the 1974 formula to take account of changes in the companies' circumstances over the next three years when their value increased substantially.

"We invite the court to conclude that the reason why the Government turns a blind eye to the practical consequences is because it would have to attempt to justify the payment of as little as one seventh of what the property was worth when taken," Mr Lester said.

Summing up the Government's case, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, said that the shareholders had persisted in arguing that there was an intrinsic or "real" value to property. Yet they did not challenge the Government's proposition that, to arrive at the value of shares, you had to adopt a valuation method, and that the choice of method lay with the Government.

SANPAOLO

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1984

ASSETS		LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	
Million L. (7)		Million L. (7)	
Cash and Due from Banks	5,442	Deposits	13,807
Securities	3,981	Mortgage and other Bonds	3,812
Investments in Subsidiaries and Associated Companies	483	Other borrowed funds	559
Loans	9,785	Other Liabilities	4,086
(Reserve for possible loan losses)	(274)	Total Liabilities	22,266
Premises and Equipment	226	Capital Accounts	1,035
Other Assets	3,748	Total Liabilities and Capital Accounts	23,301
Total Assets	23,301		

(7) Rate of exchange as at 31 December 1984: 1 L. = 22.4975 Italian Lira

After provisions to reserve and market valuation adjustments to securities aggregating £201 million, the net income amounts to £183 million. After transferring £110 million to retained earnings, the net income available for distribution totals £53 million. Capital accounts, together with reserve for possible loan losses and retained profit, exceed £1,296 million.

SANPAOLO BANK

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F. & NOMURA EUROPE N.V.
The Toys Trust and Banking Co. Ltd.
100-11, 100-12, 100-13, 100-14, 100-15, 100-16, 100-17, 100-18, 100-19, 100-20, 100-21, 100-22, 100-23, 100-24, 100-25, 100-26, 100-27, 100-28, 100-29, 100-30, 100-31, 100-32, 100-33, 100-34, 100-35, 100-36, 100-37, 100-38, 100-39, 100-40, 100-41, 100-42, 100-43, 100-44, 100-45, 100-46, 100-47, 100-48, 100-49, 100-50, 100-51, 100-52, 100-53, 100-54, 100-55, 100-56, 100-57, 100-58, 100-59, 100-60, 100-61, 100-62, 100-63, 100-64, 100-65, 100-66, 100-67, 100-68, 100-69, 100-70, 100-71, 100-72, 100-73, 100-74, 100-75, 100-76, 100-77, 100-78, 100-79, 100-80, 100-81, 100-82, 100-83, 100-84, 100-85, 100-86, 100-87, 100-88, 100-89, 100-90, 100-91, 100-92, 100-93, 100-94, 100-95, 100-96, 100-97, 100-98, 100-99, 100-100, 100-101, 100-102, 100-103, 100-104, 100-105, 100-106, 100-107, 100-108, 100-109, 100-110, 100-111, 100-112, 100-113, 100-114, 100-115, 100-116, 100-117, 100-118, 100-119, 100-120, 100-121, 100-122, 100-123, 100-124, 100-125, 100-126, 100-127, 100-128, 100-129, 100-130, 100-131, 100-132, 100-133, 100-134, 100-135, 100-136, 100-137, 100-138, 100-139, 100-140, 100-141, 100-142, 100-143, 100-144, 100-145, 100-146, 100-147, 100-148, 100-149, 100-150, 100-151, 100-152, 100-153, 100-154, 100-155, 100-156, 100-157, 100-158, 100-159, 100-160, 100-161, 100-162, 100-163, 100-164, 100-165, 100-166, 100-167, 100-168, 100-169, 100-170, 100-171, 100-172, 100-173, 100-174, 100-175, 100-176, 100-177, 100-178, 100-179, 100-180, 100-181, 100-182, 100-183, 100-184, 100-185, 100-186, 100-187, 100-188, 100-189, 100-190, 100-191, 100-192, 100-193, 100-194, 100-195, 100-196, 100-197, 100-198, 100-199, 100-200, 100-201, 100-202, 100-203, 100-204, 100-205, 100-206, 100-207, 100-208, 100-209, 100-210, 100-211, 100-212, 100-213, 100-214, 100-215, 100-216, 100-217, 100-218, 100-219, 100-220, 100-221, 100-222, 100-223, 100-224, 100-225, 100-226, 100-227, 100-228, 100-229, 100-230, 100-231, 100-232, 100-233, 100-234, 100-235, 100-236, 100-237, 100-238, 100-239, 100-240, 100-241, 100-242, 100-243, 100-244, 100-245, 100-246, 100-247, 100-248, 100-249, 100-250, 100-251, 100-252, 100-253, 100-254, 100-255, 100-256, 100-257, 100-258, 100-259, 100-260, 100-261, 100-262, 100-263, 100-264, 100-265, 100-266, 100-267, 100-268, 100-269, 100-270, 100-271, 100-272, 100-273, 100-274, 100-275, 100-276, 100-277, 100-278, 100-279, 100-280, 100-281, 100-282, 100-283, 100-284, 100-285, 100-286, 100-287, 100-288, 100-289, 100-290, 100-291, 100-292, 100-293, 100-294, 100-295, 100-296, 100-297, 100-298, 100-299, 100-300, 100-301, 100-302, 100-303, 100-304, 100-305, 100-306, 100-307, 100-308, 100-309, 100-310, 100-311, 100-312, 100-313, 100-314, 100-315, 100-316, 100-317, 100-318, 100-319, 100-320, 100-321, 100-322, 100-323, 100-324, 100-325, 100-326, 100-327, 100-328, 100-329, 100-330, 100-331, 100-332, 100-333, 100-334, 100-335, 100-336, 100-337, 100-338, 100-339, 100-340, 100-341, 100-342, 100-343, 100-344, 100-345, 100-346, 100-347, 100-348, 100-349, 100-350, 100-351, 100-352, 100-353, 100-354, 100-355, 100-356, 100-357, 100-358, 100-359, 100-360, 100-361, 100-362, 100-363, 100-364, 100-365, 100-366, 100-367, 100-368, 100-369, 100-370, 100-371, 100-372, 100-373, 100-374, 100-375, 100-376, 100-377, 100-378, 100-379, 100-380, 100-381, 100-382, 100-383, 100-384, 100-385, 100-386, 100-387, 100-388, 100-389, 100-390, 100-391, 100-392, 100-393, 100-394, 100-395, 100-396, 100-397, 100-398, 100-399, 100-400, 100-401, 100-402, 100-403, 100-404, 100-405, 100-406, 100-407, 100-408, 100-409, 100-410, 100-411, 100-412, 100-413, 100-414, 100-415, 100-416, 100-417, 100-418, 100-419, 100-420, 100-421, 100-422, 100-423, 100-424, 100-425, 100-426, 100-427, 100-428, 100-429, 100-430, 100-431, 100-432, 100-433, 100-434, 100-435, 100-436, 100-437, 100-438, 100-439, 100-440, 100-441, 100-442, 100-443, 100-444, 100

THE MANAGEMENT PAGE: Marketing and Advertising

Contested takeovers

Turning to advertising in the hour of need

BY FEONA McEWAN

PLENTY OF midnight oil is being burned as the UK retailing giants Debenhams and Buxtons rally their troops and hone their arguments in the current takeover tussle.

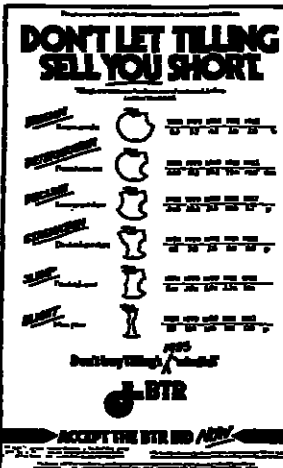
This goes for all their advisors — bankers, lawyers, accountants, as well as public relations and advertising agencies. "It means being on call every day, weekends too," said one adman this week. Contested takeovers are very much a team effort and one in which advertising is playing an increasingly visible role.

We've seen lots of it about in the past three years—Curry/Dixons; Hanson Trust/London Brick; Booker McConnell/Dee Corporation; House of Fraser/Loribro; Gulf/Wessex Group; BTR/Tilling; P & O/Trafalgar House.

Reasons for this, say industry experts, include pressure from the City for companies to grow which forces more acquisitions, not all of them welcome, as well as a wayward postal system which can make mailshots an inefficient method of communication. Advertising, however, only tends to come into play when the private shareholding force is significant. "Institutions are persuaded by other means," says Nick Westall of Strategic Financial, the PR and advertising agency. "Often it is a matter of swinging the crucial 6 or 7 per cent of private investors."

"It depends very much on the size of the private investment," says Reg Vain of Valin Pollen, the financial consultancy group. "If there's a large number with a significant slice of the equity, then advertising has a part to play, but if it's say, 50 per cent institutional, 10 per cent private investment, then, it's not, perhaps, so relevant — you can reach them by mailings, briefings, and public and press relations."

First into the public fray is usually the aggrieved party, the defensive company, which more often than not outspends the aggressor. "The classic situation," says Vain, "is the company that has done little in the past to keep its shareholders informed. Suddenly it finds it



Preparing to do battle: left, one of the 1983 BTR ads, from agency Kilmarin Baker, in the company's takeover tussle—ultimately successful—Thames Valley. Right, one of Tootal's 1985 corporate ads, from Penman & Partners, designed to pre-empt any takeover bid (the Entad bid, ultimately rejected, occurred shortly after) and to boost the City's confidence in the company

fender: 'we've now increased our offer... from the attacker' and finally the warning notes ('Do nothing' from one side, 'don't forget to post your vote' from the other)," says Wreford.

Such tactical advertising finds a natural medium in the press, which can detail specific arguments as well as offer speed of response. "It's like a daily changing notice board," said one agency man of the possible flexibility. One of the best examples of this was the ad featuring two diverging lines showing two companies' performances, with the words "Two lines of questions you might like to ask your chairman" timed to appear on the morning of the defending company's annual general meeting.

Though Trafalgar House was unsuccessful in its bid for P & O in 1983, James Poole, head of the company's public relations group services, is convinced that advertising did its job. "We're more than satisfied with its effectiveness," he now says, "especially of particular bits of information which reached people who, I'm afraid, don't read company news regularly." Trafalgar conducted research into P & O shareholders' views during the campaign and advertising was found to be an efficient way of reaching them.

Mailing was inefficient and very slow. "The shareholders' register misses about 10 to 15 per cent of them because shares have been sold or are changing hands and then there are caretaker groups like trustees holding shares for children, so you're lucky if you reach 50 per cent of individuals by mail."

Invariably the decision to advertise is PR-led, since in the financial field PR plays an important advisory and consultancy role. For the agencies

involved in takeover battles (and for the bankers, accountants, and lawyers too) it is a time of high adrenaline and urgent deadlines. "It puts a lot of stress on an agency," says Tony Good, chairman of Good Relations, which is currently handling the Burton bid. Ads are turned round in 24 hours and less, every one first cleared by the City Panel on Takeovers and Mergers.

There appears to be little relation between spend and success in takeover advertising. The average campaign is said to cost around £400,000 though Thomas Tilling set a record with £1.5m.

Success is not simply measured in terms of who wins. The "loser" can often console itself with having achieved a higher price for its shares, a feat in which advertising, along with other factors, plays its part. Helping to push the price up is just as much an aim of defensive advertising as the "hands off" signal. Even though London Brick lost its fight for independence after spending £800,000 on its defence, Hanson Trust paid £77m above the original price. While no one would make too high a claim for the role of advertising and public relations in contested takeover battles—after all, it's the bankers who ultimately steer the strategy—advertising

and PR are the vehicles for communicating them in a clear, visible, punchy way. "You have to use all the powers of persuasion but in a scrupulously accurate way," said one financial PR man, "and that's the turn-on."

Not everyone, however, is convinced by the role of advertising in takeover bids. Karin Newman in her book "Financial Marketing and Communications" (Holt, Rinehart and Winston) questions its effectiveness, while acknowledging its growing incidence. "Research into the effectiveness of advertising during the GEC/AEL, P&O/Bovis, Sime Darty/Guthrie, and Dalgety/Spillers bids throws considerable doubt on the value of spending large sums on publicity... at best advertising was shown to have little or no effect on the outcome... Ultimately one key factor will decide the eventual outcome of any contested takeover bid. It is the price or value of the offer." "Like saying advertising plays an insignificant role in the shifting of products off shelves because the product does that itself," says Michael Friedman. "Pressure these days on fund managers and advisors of private investors is such that PR and advertising is seen as a key element in bid strategy."

International agencies

A marriage of giants

Frank Lipsius on the newly formed D'Arcy MacManus Benton and Bowles

THIS WEEK saw the biggest merger in advertising history when D'Arcy MacManus Masius and Benton and Bowles joined forces to become the world's number five advertising group, with total billings of \$2.4bn.

As we reported last week, both agencies have had their problems lately. B & B's recent loss of Hardee's last food chain and the Procter and Gamble soap, Zest, helped cause a staff cut of 50 at the New York headquarters. D'Arcy's attempt to strengthen its New York presence, which it previously pursued with the purchase of a smaller agency, took a knock when it lost business from Mars, the confectionery manufacturer, and AT & T, the telephone company.

Getting entangled in the fate of clients is also unavoidable: earlier this year B & B lost the merged food/packaging giant Nabisco Brands, while D'Arcy's San Francisco office represents the consumer paper products division of Crown Zellerbach, which has been locked in a takeover battle with Sir James Goldsmith, through his General Oriental Securities.

The two agencies, which have equal equity, have a surprisingly complementary list of clients. There is a major contrast in the heavy category, where B & B represents Stroh's and D'Arcy handles Budweiser. Besides being bigger, Budweiser has been a D'Arcy client for

70 years. A second conflict occurs in petrol marketing, where Texaco has "regrettably" already decided to pick another agency after 24 years with B & B, while D'Arcy's client Amoco, with annual billings of about \$25m, has the option to stay put.

D'Arcy had for some time been looking to merge with a strong New York agency to complement its regional strengths in St Louis, Chicago and Detroit. B & B resembles the standard American agency with a strong New York headquarters, while D'Arcy's growth through numerous mergers has given it an unusual combination of international and American regional presence.

B & B wanted to improve its international billings, where it recently won the ITC Philip account and has a strong client list with General Foods, Procter & Gamble and Boots; but where it also suffered losses of the Nabisco and Emery air freight accounts. D'Arcy has Barclay's Bank through much of the world, along with Alfa Romeo, Ricoh electronics, and Haig whisky.

It was B & B that first proposed a merger with D'Arcy earlier this year but ultimately backed out of the deal. Once D'Arcy narrowed its search of a dozen different mates to N.W. Ayer, B & B resumed its overtures and finally bagged

the deal just as a D'Arcy-Ayer merger was almost done. Though D'Arcy is the somewhat larger partner with \$1.3bn in worldwide billings, it was easy to decide to keep B & B's New York office as the headquarters, with \$480m in billings compared with \$70m for D'Arcy. The opposite is true in Chicago where the D'Arcy office will survive.

Hal Bay, the president of D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles, as the agency will be called, describes this policy as "where it's possible, we'll merge two offices." International offices, however, cannot be as lucky as the domestic U.S. offices, where the seven remaining from both agencies are all in different cities.

In the agency hierarchy, B & B's John S. Bowen, 58, assumes the role of chairman, while the D'Arcy chairman, 48-year-old Hal Bay, becomes president and chief operating officer. Peter Redsell, D'Arcy's chief operating officer, moves over to head the international division, where D'Arcy has the major presence, with \$1.34bn in billings compared with B & B's \$1.13bn. The domestic U.S. president, Roy Bostock, comes from B & B to round out the top team of a marriage that may not have been made in heaven but at least plays into both sides' major strengths and needs.

Marketing abstracts

The new breed of retailers. R. Bencin in *Direct Marketing* (U.S.), Dec 84 (44 pages).

Argument about the days of the "storekeeper" — the shopkeeper who waits for the customer to arrive — are numbered, to be replaced by "retailers" who use the full range of marketing techniques, and combine in-store trading with direct mail and catalogue selling. Points to the benefits of mail order to retailers, manufacturers and consumers, and the fundamental drawbacks of shopkeeping, and foresees increasing growth in the direct response market.

Product Pirates: J. Courtes in *Business Marketing* (U.S.), January 1985 (54 pages). Recounts the exploits of an international network of pro-

duct counterfeiters, who make a quick killing in domestic and foreign markets; specifically refers to industrial products and pinpoints the Far East as the centre for manufacturing counterfeit goods. Lists techniques for their identification and prevention, and for enforcement of legislation against them.

Brand image research. J. Elliott and others in *Admap* (UK), February, 1985 (114 pages).

Two articles (both relating to advertising effectiveness award-winners) describe the analytical research techniques used to (1) identify what benefits a new TV advertising campaign brought to sales of Kellogg's breakfast cereals (overcoming the "lean image") and (2) establish why the large brand marketed by Courage (brewers) had an unfavourable sales image in public house outlets, and to devise advertising strategies

(successfully, it is claimed) to solve it.

Account Planning: J. Wyatt in *Industrial Marketing Digest* (UK), Vol 10 No 1 (9 pages). Discusses the virtues of account planning through which client and agency jointly analyse and agree on advertising needs and strategies (as opposed to the common arrangement where the client hands the agency a brief to work to); describes how this approach was applied successfully for Jungheinrich, the UK subsidiary of the West German forklift truck manufacturers.

These abstracts are condensed from the abstracting journals published by Anbar Management Publications. Licensed copies of the original articles may be obtained at £3 each (including VAT and p+p; cash with order) from Anbar, PO Box 23, Wembley HA9 8DT.

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- 3 ITS INTERACTIVE**
Whatever the response, you can record it, measure it, analyse and act upon it. And if your campaign isn't working, you can find out why and do something about it.
- 4 ITS PERSONAL**
You can actually talk and listen to your market. You can find out what your

prospects need and tailor your offer accordingly — always maintaining control.

From these four points alone, you can see the power of the telephone as a marketing medium.

NOW CHOOSE YOUR AGENCY.
So, ask any telemarketing agency these four questions (and compare their answers to ours).

- Q What's the experience of the senior management?**
A In our case, over 50 years in direct marketing, telephone marketing and research.
- Q How successful is the agency?**
A From opening our doors in 1983 with only two managers and a secretary, we've acquired a long list of blue chip clients like Time Magazine, Keith Prowse and Austin Rover.
- Q Resources?**
A We maintain 50 telephone lines, 12 hours a day. But more important is the management behind the operation: our account teams,

operations personnel and marketing consultants. They will work with you in planning campaigns, supervising scripts and monitoring results.

With your interests in mind, they will be constantly anticipating and dealing with problems and opportunities. They represent your company and work for you. And their expertise is backed by the resources of British Telecom.

Q Case histories?
A We've prepared ten case histories, which are free with our brochure. For your copies of these documents, simply dial 100 and ask the operator for Freefone Telemarketing.



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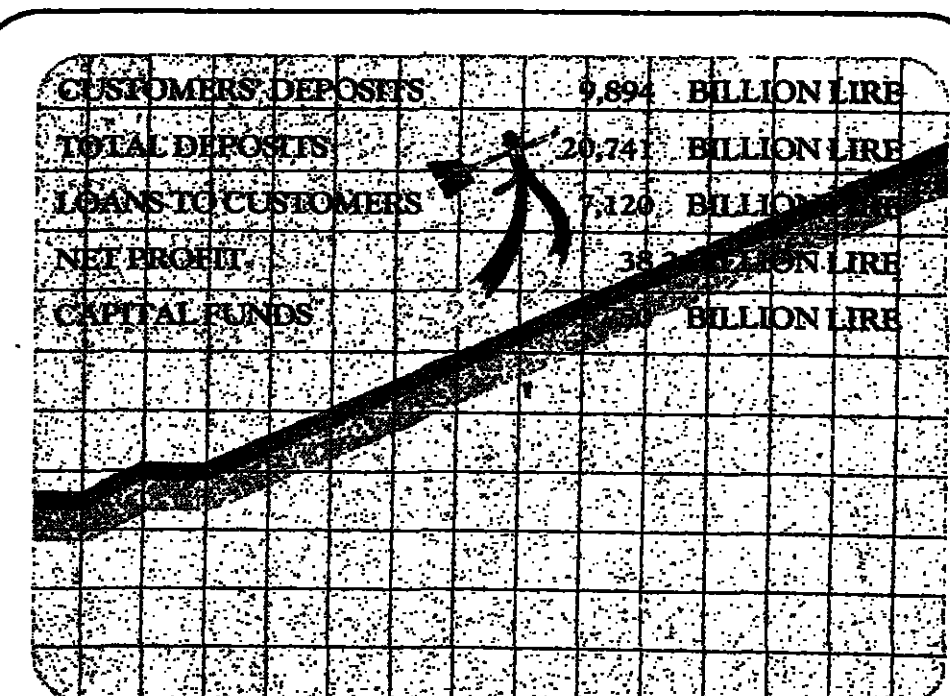
Notice to Holders of Warrants of Yamamura Glass Co., Ltd.
Issued in connection with 8 1/4% Guaranteed Notes Due 1990

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of the Terms and Conditions of the Warrants that:
1. On June 10, 1985 the Board of Directors of the Company resolved to pay a true distribution of shares of its Common Stock to its shareholders at record as of June 30, 1985, in Japan at the rate of 0.15 share for each one share held.
2. Accordingly, the subscription price in respect of the above Warrants will be adjusted effective immediately after such record date.
The subscription price to affect prior to such adjustment is \$85.00 per share of Common Stock, and the adjusted subscription price is \$112.50 per share of Common Stock.
Yamamura Glass Co., Ltd.
June 28, 1985

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PROOF OF A BANK'S GROWTH IS TO BE FOUND IN ITS BALANCE SHEET.



BNA, Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, is still growing. The Shareholders' Meeting in Rome learned with satisfaction that customers' deposits have increased by 10.2%, while loans to customers are up by 22.4%. The activity of the Bank in securities trading and in the international sector also shows an upward trend. The approved dividend stands at 175 lire for every ordinary and preferred share ranking for dividend as at 1st January 1984 and at 43.75 lire for

every ordinary and preferred share ranking for dividend as at 1st October 1984. Mr. Ciro De Martino has been appointed Member of the Board of Directors. The Bank's top executives are now the Chairman, Conte Giovanni Auletta, Amintore, the two Deputy Chairmen, Alberto Riccardi and Luigi Scotti, the Managing Director, Federico Pepe, and the Chief Central Managers Eugenio Anzi, Cino De Cini and Giuseppe Fontana.

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THE ARTS

Troilus and Cressida/Royal Shakespeare Company, Stratford-upon-Avon

Michael Coveney

Of all Shakespeare's greatest verse-speaking (generally atrocious) plays, *Troilus and Cressida* can appear the most intriguingly modern. At its centre is an exchange of hostages between a nation under siege and the army. Our scene is set in Troy, after seven years of war, sparked by the abduction of Paris of Menelaus's Helen. Howard Davies's new RSC production places us, literally, in the House of Troy, a decaying, bomb-battered classical manse, where Priam's dynastic ménage is plied in a martial echo chamber: the family pile is full of noise.

Ralph Koltai's design of crumbling masonry, dislocated doorways and slatted blinds is conceived in the Philip Prowse style, with a catastrophic explosion in the final battle scenes and falling swagged drapes as Hector dies. The Greek generals assemble in fustian grey and the chandelier goes out, a convincing switch. Pandarus, first seen reading a Greek newspaper, at ease in either camp, Achilles and Patroclus lurk at the top of a large, extravagant staircase; Thersites is a recalcitrant Gerold potman, cleaning up by knocking over chairs, flicking drinks from a tray at the social gathering of top dogs from each side. Paris, a burgundy frock-coated drunk with a black monocle.

Liz da Costa's costumes (and the programme, which even by recent Stratford standards is a scrappily presented insult) evoke a late 19th century mood, perhaps of the Crimean War. This play was discovered for the modern theatre by Tyrone Guthrie's 1956 Old Vic version; since the Hall/Barton sand-pit version of the early 1960s, the RSC has continued to profit in its excavations. Howard Davies might have done likewise had his ideas been executed with panache, the production more attentive to basic values of

and overall pace. Koltai's set is all very well, but the ingenuity of its uniform location is scuppered by clumsy furniture changes. Throughout actors are too busy drinking tea, playing tunes on wine-glasses or waiting for someone to reach the top of the bottom of the stairs. By the time we reach the battle scenes—the worst here for ages—Pandarus's farewell to our aching bones is all too pertinent.

The anachronistic gloss is not dissimilar to Trevor Nunn's on *All's Well* a few years ago. And as a sequel to Davies's "periphery war" work (*Days of the Commune*, *Much Ado*, *Another Country*) the show has vestigial merit. Alun Armstrong's hilarious music hall harrier is not so much a scabrous observer as a presaged hunchback in thick pebble glasses who avoids the front line by volunteering for domestic duties with cabbages and things.

In recent years there have been notable contortions to make elements of *The Shrew* and *The Merchant of Venice* to contemporary liberal sensibilities, but nothing so crass as here perpetrated by Davies and his Cressida, Juliet Stevenson. They are unwilling to suggest that Cressida is either false or slutish after the exchange with Antenor, and simply censor the play's meaning without re-writing the words.

Cressida becomes an oppressed victim of chauvinist bawling and in the third act, a love scene with Diomedes (Bruce Alexander's "sweet honey Greek") is a pinch-mouthed, unattractive sub-alteration she appears to be pleading for escape. On "Troilus farewell" she seems she has accepted defeat, but what of the "fault" she finds in women? It may be hard cheese on the RSC feminist puritans, but Shakespeare is writing about falsity



Juliet Stevenson, Clive Merrison and Anton Lesser

and sexual wantonness, not rape.

Miss Stevenson is too good an actress to be uninteresting and she produces two remarkable emotional outbursts: on the initial acknowledgements of her love for Troilus, and on "My love admits no qualifying dress" when plucked into the exchange deal. Meeting Agamemnon and the rest in the "kissing" scene, she is subjected to a coarse and brutal treatment that—your night generously argue—justifies her attitude to Diomedes. She is curiously mis-matched, anyway, with Anton Lesser's small and far-fetched Troilus. This Troilus registers little feeling about Cressida until the display with Diomedes. And that could not possibly convince him that the letter is a fraudulent

expression of her love. With the exception of Alexander Wilson's glowing Aeneas and Clive Merrison's touching boyish, blackish Ajax, few of the younger actors are seen to advantage.

Alan Rickman's Achilles is a temperamental, idly articulated slouch, lacking his wit with meditations after seven years of war (a good touch, that), projected into the duel with Hector (David Burke) in tearful rage at the death of Patroclus (Hilary Mantel). Clive Merrison's white-suited Pandarus is, confusingly, the resident sardonic pianist of some 1940s Hollywood movie, although I liked his original line in a scrawl whistling, and the daring antics—not

altogether successful—among the carousing Greeks. Lindsay Duncan's Helen confirms at a glance that the futility of the war has been compounded by the collapse of interest in the sordid, rather stiff-jointed Paris of Sean Baker.

Late 19th-century revolutionary turmoil is conveyed in Ilona Seacat's crashing piano score of Chopinesque pastiche, if not in the casual whisky-and-cigar aroma of the council meetings. Richard Conway's Calchas is too anonymous for this key role, but Colin Douglas's Priam and Mark Dignam's Nestor are both watchable and audible. So, too, is Peter Jeffrey's Ulysses, a slyly model major general with a destructive twinkle in his eye and a voice of silken, garotting, thread.

Genius ancient and modern in Montreal

Antony Thorncroft

Montreal is on the move again. After a tricky patch when politics threatened to detach French Quebec from Canada, with dire effects on its economy, the city is making up for some wasted years with the kind of imaginative ideas which brought Expo 67 and the Olympics to Montreal in the not too distant past.

The most popular event this summer has undoubtedly been an International Fireworks Competition, which attracted entries from eight countries. By the time a reputed 32M had gone up in smoke, Japan and France had won the two major contests and Montreal, had experienced the worst traffic jam in its history as over 1m people packed the banks of the St Lawrence for the grand finale.

Sometimes it seemed as if crowds of this size were visiting the city for the first time. The two main cultural shows of the summer, exhibitions devoted to the paintings of Picasso and to the works of Ramesses II (Rameses in French version). Both events were distinctive.

The Picasso, which opened last week and continues until November 10, is limited to 80 works, which the artist kept in his possession. After his death the French Government creamed off a couple of thousand canvases from his studio to meet death duties, but Picasso's widow Jacqueline retained when you see his most intimate works. These form the basis of the exhibition. In spite of the propaganda of the organisers a good few of the paintings have been seen publicly before but in the main this is a very personal choice by an intimate of Picasso which gives a fresh and, thankfully, relevant view of perhaps the most over-familiar artist in history.

The paintings are grouped by theme in four rooms. They range widely in date from that most conventional of subjects, The Flight into Egypt, done at the age of 14, to a portrait of the artist and his wife completed when he was over 80—his hand, in bright, aggressive, red paint has turned into a brush. There is not the same range in style—Picasso pioneered so many and, during his pink period in the early 1900s, was so happy to be finding buyers that he kept few canvases. There is, however, a very poignant nude of 1902 in the blue period—all elongated vulnerability.

Picasso presented in this concentrated way breaks through the mythology that clings to him. You realise that he is an up-front artist—what you see is what you get. This is particularly true of the portraits, some of an earlier Greek mistress, many of Jacqueline. A wall is devoted to her—looking sad, serene, and penitent in turn. Then very domestic, with a stray cat on her lap. Picasso as family man may be a new thought; there is a particularly bright and happy portrait of his son dressed as Pierrot. But in this instant guide to the artist and to 20th-century art history, little from the text books has been sacrificed. There is Picasso in the historical tradition, with his overt debts to artists like Delacroix (in a portrait of Jacqueline in oriental costume), Poussin, with dancing figures, and to Van Gogh, in a striking self-portrait where he has crowned himself with the famous straw hat.

There are musketeers and

bullfighters, with a gripping late work of a Mazambique black torso with plenty of red splash; is predictably personal models, dreaming rather than what they might be dreaming about; and the sad and colourless canvases he painted in Nazi-occupied Paris during the War. Anyone who was scared of Picasso should go to Montreal: this is the artist amiable and accessible, but with no loss of genius.

One work in the Picasso exhibition, of Jacqueline coping with another generation of baby Picassos, could have been influenced by Egyptian tomb paintings but the only real link between the artist and the Ramesses II show is that they both offer refined experience. The 67 exhibits come from Cairo museum. Some have been shown in Paris in 1976, but this is the first trip to North America. They are displayed in what had been the French Pavilion of Expo '67 and the journey is somewhat similar to venturing into a pyramid. You pass through dark passages before finally arriving at an Egyptian restaurant.

The tomb of Ramesses II was looted soon after his death in 1240 BC so there are few personal effects in Montreal. But so great was his fame that a latter Pharaoh gave him a secondhand sarcophagus in a re-tombing (on show), and many centuries on his mummy was re-buried to thwart another generation of tomb robbers. When his mummy was discovered in the 1870s, and brought to Cairo, peasants

walled as if a great leader had just died. For, thanks to a reign of 67 years, Ramesses became the Great. After some early skirmishes with the Hittites he reigned over a peaceful land. He was Ozymandias, King of Kings.

Some of this power and pomp is in Montreal. It is unfortunate that his mummy could not be exhibited, a Colossus of Ramesses as a victory, is a good symbol of his absolutism. The show matches great statues, made from pink granite and painted sandstone, with intimate gold artifacts of quite extraordinary craftsmanship. There can be nothing matching the vessel with a gold shaped handle in the form of a goat, or of a female swimmer, in the art of any contemporary civilisation, nor indeed for the next millennium.

The exhibits might have carried more explanatory material (the catalogue costs \$30); they cover a much longer period than even the reign of Ramesses II and they give glimpses of Ancient Egypt leaving unanswered many questions about the social life of the time. Yet there could be hardly a more stimulating introduction to one of the most mysterious, yet well-known, civilisations of the world. One object alone—the first known clock, a decorated bowl dating centuries earlier even than Ramesses, which measures time through water dripping down the incised lines, is sufficient in itself to justify the exhibition, and the need to visit it.



Ramesses II, King of Kings

Thea Musgrave's new opera

Andrew Porter

For her sixth opera, *Harriet, the Woman Called Moses*—a joint commission from the Virginia Opera and Covent Garden—Thea Musgrave chose an American subject. Harriet Tubman, c. 1820-1913, was an escaped slave who returned again and again to Maryland to guide other slaves along the "Underground Railroad" to freedom. Later, during the Civil War, she acted as scout and spy for the Union Forces. She has been called both the Moses and the Joan of Arc of her people. The first brief life of her was written in 1869. Queen Victoria read it and sent Harriet a silver medal.

Musgrave was her own librettist, and the "dramatic documentary" she devised is a fairly conventional piece of work. The opera opens with a flashback: Harriet, escaped, in Philadelphia, hears in a dream her people calling to "Lead us to freedom!" and then we are back in the slave quarters. The real-life Harriet's first intentions were to rescue just her family; Musgrave gives her the larger vision from the start. When she went back for her husband, she found him married to someone else. Musgrave drops this unsatisfactory husband and introduces instead a love affair with a slave called Josiah and a standardised operatic conduct between the claims of love and duty. ("At last we're together, I won't let you go!" "I must make just this one more journey South." "Then go alone!")

Musgrave also invented an Old Master of the benevolent type (in an 11 chorus he is laid in de cold, cold ground);

and his wicked son Preston, who tries to seduce young Harriet. In the final scene, Preston pursues Harriet and Josiah right to the Canadian border, and shoots at Harriet as she is crossing the bridge to freedom. Josiah, shielding her, receives the shot, and the opera ends with a long duet as he dies. It is hard not to feel that an extraordinary history has been adulterated by the clichés of sub-Puccinian verismo. By comparison with David Blake's *Toussaint* or Henze's *We Come to the River*—fair comparisons—*Harriet* is disappointingly unambitious.

Ronald Crichton, reviewing Musgrave's previous opera, *A Christmas Carol*, in these pages, described her "an efficient opera composer and sometimes more than that." *Harriet* is an efficient piece of work, most of the time. (Not always: there are dragging episodes of mawkish dramaturgy.) The opera starts with a pair of "Freedom" chorals that are conscientiously worked as a recurrent motif (but are an inadequate musical gesture); stretches of whole-tone harmony; tritones to represent strife; tonality too easily won to end each act with long high notes for the heroine.

Real spirituals ("Go down, Moses" and "Swing low, sweet chariot") appear, and also newly composed spirituals; one of them, Josiah's "Wonder where my sister gone," is a happy invention.

The work, it seems, had been skilfully planned, please and comfort. "Moses" means Bohème and Tosca. It was a great success: there were ten sold-out performances (four of

them for schools audiences), and the enthusiasm at two performances I attended was immense. But the very fact that in content Musgrave aims higher than Puccini makes her recourse to hackneyed devices and procedures, both musical and dramatic, the less acceptable. There are some beautiful sounds in *Harriet*, and some effective episodes; but also much that is obvious, formulaic, uninspired. These are hard things to say, for beneath the *Harriet* one heard there seemed to be another opera—more visionary, ambitious and individual—that somehow did not quite get composed.

The performance, in Norfolk, Virginia, was good, with a young soprano of great promise, Cynthia Haymon in the title role. (Glyndebourne will hear her in *Porgy and Bess*.) Altogether De Vaughn was warm and strong as Harriet's mother. Ben Holt was a vigorous and sensitive Gordon. David Davidson's production was fluent but conventional; Jeffrey Beecroft's settings had a basic frame suggesting the hold of a slave ship; Peter Mark, Musgrave's husband and Intendant of the Virginia company, conducted ably.

The Virginia Opera, now in its tenth season, has swiftly won wide community support, and Musgrave is a local heroine. *Mary, Queen of Scots* had its American premiere there (in an admirable production, Ashley Putnam was its heroine, which put the company on the national map), and *A Christmas Carol* its premiere. And whatever one's personal disappointment with *Harriet*, it was good to hear a new modern opera so thoroughly appreciated.

Previn, Yo Yo Ma/Festival Hall

Paul Driver

The second week of André Previn's Music Festival continued on Tuesday night with a distinguished all-Elgar programme, in which he was conducting the Royal Philharmonic and accompanying the young American-based cellist Yo Yo Ma.

Cockaigne overture was done with sufficient aplomb to compensate for its familiarity. Though the performance did not linger over the poignant, quavering, lyrical passages that periodically break into the confident discourse, the latter was managed with a fine sensitivity to the composer's characteristic rhythm and flow.

Throughout the concert Previn bore himself as a natural Elgarian. Nothing was ever flashy or forced—his instinct for the favour and the manner of unfolding of the music was communicated with quiet, precise authority. In the Cello Concerto this aptitude combined with Yo Yo Ma's stunning individual insights into the work to produce a reading as magnificent and moving as any I can recall.

From his initial, lunging attack on the solo part one knew that Ma's account was going to be special. It was so in every way: virtuosity (flawless tuning, even in the highest register, and a sound so rounded and full that, surely, it could have penetrated to the back of the hall); dynamic infection (new colours, new sounds); communicative drama; above all, inwardness of feeling. It was as though Ma's own musical soul as a devotee of the instrument was being

uniquely bared by this concerto. Elgarian nostalgia exuded, as it should, from the performance, but there was also a timeless Orphic cajection.

What Previn notably helped him to achieve was the creation of an enhanced sense in which the work was both lyrically fluid, to the point of seeming to be able to cease its motion and talk to us directly, yet structurally as calculated and tight as could be. There was always a new point waiting to be urged as the soloist completed one of his quiet ruminations; there was never the faintest chance of a collapse into the desultory. Previn's authority did not desert him in the first symphony. Again he succeeded in demonstrating the solidity and imaginative ambition of Elgar's architecture, while preserving consistently lovely sound. The design was unforgettably beautiful, and the wide expressive range was expertly compressed as its evolution was made lucid and inevitable.

Gate re-opens

The Gate Theatre, Notting Hill, will re-open after its major refurbishment on July 1 with the European premiere of *Donny and the Deep Blue Sea*, by John Patrick Shanley.

The play was first seen at the Louisville Festival last year, and subsequently moved to New York where it was well received.

This production is directed by Robert Stephens, and stars Fiona Victor and Alan Polansky.

WEST GERMANY

Berlin, Gropius Bau, Stresemannstr. 110 Berlin 61: Treasures of the Forbidden Cities. Titled to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the Peking Palace Museum is coming to Europe for the first time, with roughly 120 works covering 3500 years of Chinese history. The exhibition in Berlin includes gold, jade, paintings, porcelain, musical instruments and calligraphy. Ends August 18.

Frankfurt, Museum für Kunsthandwerk, Schummacherstr. 17: The new museum opens with an exhibition of Turkish culture and art from the Ottoman empire. 500 works are on loan, ranging from 15th-18th century. The show includes glass, carpets, ceramics, miniatures and weapons. Ends June 30.

Köln, Schnitzerei Museum, Chlodwigstr. 20 Gothic Art from Bohemia. 60 masterpieces from between 14th and 18th century on loan from the National Gallery, Prague. Ends July 21.

München, Staatliche Künsthalle, Grabbeplatz 4: A retrospective of Rupprecht Geiger with 100 paintings from between 1945 and 1984. Ends July 21.

München, Staatsgalerie, Moderner Kunst, Prinzregentenstr. 1: German Art since 1980, 200 paintings, prints and drawings by 15 artists from a private collection of the German Prince Franz of Bavaria. Among them: Beyer, Richter and Kiefer. Ends Sept 15.

Emden, Achymer-Gesellschaft, Rathaus am Deft: To honour the

June 21-27

NEW YORK

Metropolitan Museum: 30 objects from the period between the 1651 Crystal Palace Exhibition to the 1980 World Fair in Paris demonstrate the show's theme of Revivals and Explorations in European decorative arts. Ends Sept 5.

Washington, National Gallery, Ancient Art of the Americas: Woodland Indians includes 151 pieces covering 5,000 years of sculpture, ceramics, copper and shell objects of the native Americans who lived in what is now the eastern half of the U.S. Ends Aug 4.

National Gallery (West Side): 36 old master paintings from the Dulwich Picture Gallery are exhibited under the title *Collection for a King*, including works by Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Canaletto and Gainsborough. Ends Sept 2.

CHICAGO

Art Institute: Though Edouard Manet made sketches primarily to reproduce and publicize his paintings, he developed a unique style as shown in the 21 sketches in this special exhibit of more than a third of his total output of 75 sketches. Ends Sept 2.

Art Institute: With 200 Marc Chagall works on paper dating from 1907 to 1983, this show from the Centre Pompidou in Paris makes a good study of Chagall the draughtsman. Ends July 7.

Vanessa Redgrave in The Seagull

Vanessa Redgrave and Jonathan Pryce will appear in *The Seagull* for a 14-week season opening on July 29 at the Queen's Theatre. Miss Redgrave appeared on the same stage in the same play 21 years ago as Nina, a role now taken by her daughter Natasha Richardson.

Charles Sturridge's production for the Oxford Playhouse and Lyric Hammersmith was seen in London in April, with Samantha Eggar and John Hurt in the roles of Arkadina and Trigorin now taken by Vanessa Redgrave and Jonathan Pryce. The cast will also include

Alfred Burke, Ronald Hines and John Lynch. This is the first time that Vanessa Redgrave and her daughter will have acted on the stage together, although Miss Redgrave has appeared on film, in *Harriet's Wedding*, with her other, younger daughter

Saleroom/Antony Thorncroft

Impressionable market

Sotheby's had a sticky time of things at its major summer Impressionist auction on Tuesday evening: the two star lots, paintings by Cézanne of his wife Hortense and a still life of apples, failed to find buyers. They had been estimated to sell for around £1.5m each, but in the event were bought in at £930,000 and £780,000 respectively.

The underlined the traditional uncertainty of demand for Impressionist and modern pictures. Although they are the most collected works of art among the very rich with international appeal, there are so many available that buyers can wait for the really exceptional ones to appear. The Cézannes were of good quality, but small and rather unexciting.

But the market is not particularly weak—just discriminating. "La rentrée de foie," by Gauguin, which had been unsold for 21 years in a New York auction at \$168,000, found a new home at an impressive £297,000; and the many Japanese buyers in the saleroom were showing particular interest in paintings of the Paris School. "Deux enfants at cage d'oiseau," by Foulta, sold for £126,500, and "Deux filles à la guitare," by Marie Laurencin, for £74,500. Both went to Japan.

As did the top lot, "Maternité," an early 1901 Paris painting by Picasso, bought by MOMS Art, Japan, for \$539,000. The dealer Wilden-

stein paid \$418,000 for "La Seine à Lavacourt," by Monet, and another Monet, of the beach at Sainte-Adresse, went for £259,000. A street scene in Paris by Pissarro sold for £319,000, and a landscape, an auction record price paid for a work by the Belgian Fauve artist, Rik Wouters: £126,500 for "Les rideaux rouges."

The sales totalled \$4,405,500 with 55 per cent unsold. As well as the Cézannes, a major Renoir and a Rodon were bought in. Yesterday's auction of the artist's division Impressionist and modern pictures was more to form, with a total of £2,798,400 and a reasonable 21 per cent bought in. The best prices were the £58,100 paid for "Meditation," or "Sitting Man," by Jacques Accoude; £50,600 for "La maison dans les arbres" by Gustave Caillebotte; and £48,500 for "Partie de campagne" by Marie Laurencin, who seems much in favour these days.

In the morning session of Christie's print sale, all from a private collection, the only known print by Pieter Bruegel the Elder, which is very rare and depicts a landscape with rabbit hunters, sold at its high estimate, for £25,900. "Prosperine," by Hendrik Goltzius, doubled its forecast at £15,120, and an engraving of Apollo, also by Goltzius, also far exceeded its estimate at £14,040.

Arts Guide

Exhibitions

SPAIN

Madrid: Palacio de Cristal and Palacio Velazquez, Parque del Retiro: Spanish sculpture 1930-38. Sculpture and drawings by Picasso, Miró and contemporaries. The selection includes two works featured in the 1937 Paris exhibition, at the height of the Spanish Civil War, and now shown in Spain for the first time. Picasso's *Femme du Vas* and Julio González's *Femme du Vas*. Ends July 30. Le Montserrat. Ends July 30. (274777).

Madrid: Sala de la Caixa de Barcelona, Velazquez 88, Salvador Dalí, a retrospective of his work as an author and illustrator of books, with 300 engravings and lithographs and 200 drawings. Ends July 18. (4312017).

Barcelona: Fundación Joan Miró: Works by 45 Russian avant-garde artists from the Ludwig collections in Cologne, covering the period from 1910 to 1930 and including the most representative masters of neo-primitivism, constructivism and suprematism. Ends July 7.

PARIS

Reims: An important exhibition of the most successful of Impressionist painters, who never tired of glorifying the nude female body capturing the light, comes to Paris from the Hayward Gallery, London. It consists of some 125 paintings and 50 drawings, including *Le Bal du Moulin de la Galette* and *La Danse à Bougival*, Grand Palais, Closed Tue. Ends Sept 2 (2615410).

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his in Paris and here in the Ukraine, a retrospective of some 300 objects, paintings, drawings and decorative projects brings to life their joint pictorial adventure. Whether exploring the Eiffel Tower images, their colours are vibrant, their joie de vivre explosive. Musée d'Art Moderne, 11 avenue du Président Wilson, closed Tue to late closing. Ends Sept 8. (2615410).

Cornwall: The range of French 19th and 20th century masters assembled by the art merchant Robert Schmit comprises an important De Gaulle pastels La Conversation and a Van Gogh, unusual both for technique and the theme of the Seine. On the first floor the smudges and comes in with Vuillard, Bonnard and Dufy, Picasso's Large Buste d'homme faces an equally large Braque still life. There is a dreamlike Balzac landscape and a strong blue, red and white one by De Staël. Gallery Schmit, 288 rue Saint-Hippolyte (2603636), closed Sun and from 12am-2pm. Ends July 20.

LONDON

The Tate Gallery: Francis Bacon, Britain's greatest living painter, according to a retrospective at the age of 76 of a second full retrospective exhibition at the Tate, 30 years after his reputation as an artist of world standing was first put beyond all doubt. Now we see him no longer as a unique and extraordinary figure, but as an artist who has come at last to his own, as younger painters have come round again to the human figure as the central, creative preoccupation. As the subject matter is now more acceptable, so his

peculiar and tormented re-invention and reconstruction of the figure no longer shocks. Ends Aug 18.

VIENNA

Vienna 1870-1930: Dream and Reality: The greatest names of the Viennese fin-de-siècle—Klimt, Otto Wagner, Schiele, Kokoschka, Aldolf Loos, Josef Hoffmann—in a dazzling display of Jugendstil creative genius. The attempt to integrate the artistic achievements of this era with philosophical developments (notably Wittgenstein but also Freud) and political transformations (the emergence of municipal socialism on the ruins of Baroque splendour) is ambitious and only partly successful. The complex tension between aesthetic and political reality on the one hand and the illusions or fantasies of individual artists on the other is hinted at but not fully explored. A high point of the show is a reconstruction of Hoffmann's room at the secession exhibition of 1902. Here, triumphantly restored, is Klimt's fifty-first Beethoven frieze celebrating humanity's progress through suffering to joy on the theme of the Ninth Symphony. Displayed exactly as intended, this alone is worth a special visit. Kunsthistorisches, Ends October 8.

BRUSSELS

Hotel Metropole is celebrating its 90th year and in its splendid fin de siècle public areas, worth a visit in themselves, they are exhibiting glass and objects d'art from the Belle Époque to Art Nouveau including works by Wouters, Gallé and Daum. Also on show are a collection of illustrated me-

mo cards including a Press Banquet in 1893, Congo in 1898 and Sarah Bernhardt in 1899. Ends July 20.

Opera costumes from 1958 to the present including Zeffirelli's *Figliotto*, Respighi's *Traviata* and Karl Ernst Höpfermann's *Clemency of Titus*. Musée de Costumes et Dentelle. Until November.

Tony Craig—a major exhibition of one of Britain's contemporary sculptors. Palais des Beaux-Arts. Ends July 28.

ITALY

Venice, Palazzo Fortuny: Toys for the science-fiction era showing how vastly more sophisticated robots have become, since first produced in the 1950s. Ends July 14.

Naples, Museo di Capodimonte: The Age of Caravaggio, seen at the Metropolitan Museum in New York in February and March, is the first fruit of an agreement between the museum and the Italian Arts Ministry. Besides 40 paintings by this extraordinary artist (some of his earliest certain attributions) there are works by Caracci, Reni, Bolognini, Elsholtz, Giambruschio and Rubens, as well as a section devoted to their northern Italian predecessors, who had an important influence on Caravaggio. Until End of June.

Florence: Museo Archeologico (Piazza SS. Annunziata)—The Etruscan Civilization: This is the first of a long series of exhibitions to mark the Year of the Etruscans, and shows the results of the most recent research into the Etruscan world. A brief history of this civilization's birth, development and decline. Ends Oct 20.

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A litmus test for Europe

ONE way or another, the European Community summit which opens in Milan tomorrow will be a litmus test of the viability of the European enterprise. The decks have been cleared; preparations for this meeting have been going on for almost a year. The heads of government must now show whether they are willing to take those decisions which will get the Community moving out of its prolonged stagnation.

In theory there is no reason why this should not be a successful meeting. There is a broad consensus that the Community can provide some of the answers to Europe's economic problems only if its internal market is thoroughly liberalised and deregulated. There is also a broad consensus that liberalisation will be deadlocked, unless the decision-making process is streamlined, with much more majority voting. Unfortunately, the prospects for agreement are overshadowed by three conflicting sets of illusions.

The first illusion, represented by Italy and the Benelux countries, is that the new chapter in the Community's history needs to be marked, symbolically, with a thorough-going shake-up of its constitution, a constitutional conference, a summit, quite possibly with a new treaty. Now it is arguable that the Rome Treaty is showing its age; and that if majority voting were to become the general rule for routine decisions, the certain quasi-federalist consequences should flow from this.

But it is not obvious that the member states are ready for a federalising leap forward, in advance of any solid evidence that they are prepared to make even marginal concessions of national interest on the mundane common-market obligations laid down in the Rome Treaty. At this stage a conference aimed at fundamental revision of that Treaty can only precipitate ideological disputes, while distracting attention from the more pressing economic problems facing the member states.

Liberalisation

The British Government has been the most insistent advocate of market liberalisation, and rightly so: a large free market with the maximum of competition, is the *sine qua non* for any strategy of faster economic

growth and a stronger industrial structure in Europe. The British illusion has been to suppose that the political consequences of liberalisation can somehow be concealed or at least finessed, and that the federalist ambitions of others must be denounced.

The fact is that the political ramifications of a fully integrated market cannot be denied, nor should they be. Presumably, the British Government believes that market liberalisation, especially in services, will be to Britain's advantage. Securing that advantage will require political goodwill from other member states, and it can make no sense constantly to pour water on their political idealism.

Technology gap

The French government's concern seems mainly focused on the technology gap and the threat from the American "star wars" research programme; its response is the Eureka idea for co-ordinating European research in high technology. Now "star wars" may pose a threat, through a brain drain of European researchers, and there may be a case for a federalising leap forward, in advance of any solid evidence that they are prepared to make even marginal concessions of national interest on the mundane common-market obligations laid down in the Rome Treaty. At this stage a conference aimed at fundamental revision of that Treaty can only precipitate ideological disputes, while distracting attention from the more pressing economic problems facing the member states.

The heaviness of the agenda makes it unlikely that the heads of government can reach final agreement on any of the issues; the constitutional question alone, with its political resonances, would be enough to occupy all their time. But it is essential that they settle the broad principles which should govern detailed discussions between the foreign ministers, so as to produce a final package by the end of the year. What Europe cannot afford at this stage would be an inconclusive exchange of rhetoric, followed by an open-ended and directionless conference.

More haste, less justice

The Administration of Justice Bill, now approaching the report stage in the House of Commons, looks likely to proceed to Royal Assent later in the summer without facing the considerable public concern: solicitors' handling of complaints against themselves. The Lord Chancellor's Department is arguing that it is far too late now to heed the recommendations of an independent report commissioned by the Law Society from Coopers and Lybrand, the management consultants.

The Coopers report argues that a body independent of the Law Society should be set up to investigate complaints against solicitors. It maintains that there is an inherent conflict of interest if the Law Society, the solicitors' trade union, is asked to act on behalf of members of the general public. The report proposes a new Solicitors' Complaints Board, funded by the profession, and comprising five elected solicitors and five lay members appointed by Government and a solicitor chairman appointed by the Master of the Rolls.

Independent

These suggestions are very much in line with earlier recommendations from the National Consumers' Council, which is also keen to see a complaints procedure independent of the Law Society. The Coopers report fully supports the concept of self-regulation: the new board would be independent of the Law Society but not of the profession. It points out that in other professions the trade association is not directly responsible for the investigation of complaints. The General Medical Council, for example, and not the British Medical Association, handles complaints against doctors. And accountants have set up a joint disciplinary committee which is independent of the individual professional associations.

In the Administration of Justice Bill, the Lord Chancellor's Department has been content merely to tinker with the status quo; there is no suggestion that the Law Society should relinquish responsibility

for investigating complaints against its own members. This seems a strange lapse on the part of officials.

Public concern about solicitors' handling of complaints is hardly new. In 1983, the profession was shaken by the Glanville Davies case in which the Law Society repeatedly failed to investigate complaints against a member of its own ruling council. The complainant finally took his case to the High Court which found that he had been overcharged by £130,000. Mr Davies was belatedly found guilty of gross professional misconduct and struck off the roll of solicitors.

Questions

The Glanville Davies case immediately preceded the drafting of the present Bill. It was undoubtedly an exceptional lapse on the part of the Law Society. Yet public discontent has not diminished. The profession's ombudsman recently reported, there were a record number of claims that the Law Society was handling complaints against solicitors inadequately. Quite apart from the central issue of conflicts of interest, the Coopers report condemns the existing complaints procedure as "slow, cumbersome, inefficient and unresponsive." It argues that action is necessary immediately if public confidence in the legal profession is not to be further diminished.

In the short time available, Members of Parliament should seek answers to two questions. Why, in the face of the evidence, was the Lord Chancellor's Department broadly content with a status quo which independent management consultants describe as potentially "disastrous"? And is it really true, as the department maintains, that it is quite impossible at this late stage to amend the Bill?

The speed with which the Government is introducing new legislation to curb football hooliganism suggests that when the will is there, quick action is feasible. Legislation affecting the legal profession tends to be infrequent: the last big bills were in 1979 and 1974. Rather than wait another five years for sensible legislation, it would be better to delay the Administration of Justice Bill.

LOSS of investor confidence

in Britain's electronics and electrical industry this week turned into something like a bloodbath. Share prices of leading companies such as GEC, Plessey, Racal and STC, some of which had already lost half or more of their value since the start of the year, have in the past few days been driven to yet lower levels. Some are now selling at prices last seen in 1981, since when the stock market as a whole has doubled. The ostensible trigger was a gloomy first half profit forecast on Tuesday of Racal Electronics. But the violence with which the market reacted clearly suggests that it is now in a mood to believe the worst of a sector which, only last year, seemed to offer glittering growth prospects.

This swing in City attitudes may prove to have been overdone. It is undoubtedly owing something to fashion and to anger at having been caught napping by the downturn. Many analysts, trying to explain away optimistic earlier profits forecasts, are now accusing management of ignoring or concealing evidence of trouble ahead.

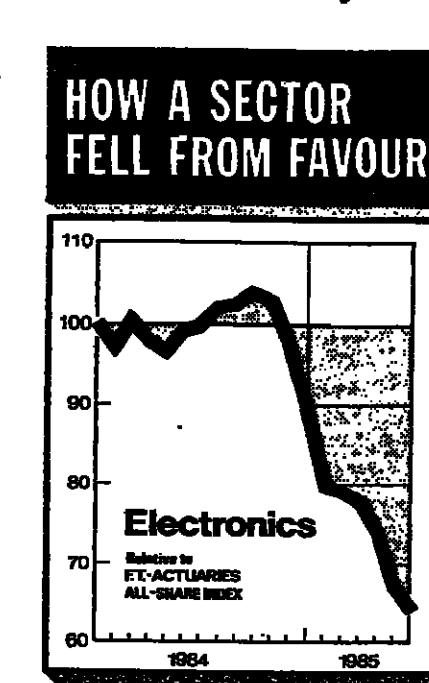
However, there is also concern that the industry may be entering more than just a patch of short-term difficulty and is confronted with fundamental structural problems. Some are peculiar to the UK, but many are closely linked to the recent confusing upheavals in electronics markets worldwide. "The problems that all the British electronics companies face have nothing to do with a general economic downturn," according to Mr Douglas Hawkins of stockbrokers James Capel. Indeed, he and other analysts believe that the absence of any merger moves to put a floor under the market may mean that prices will slide further.

Challenge of radically changing markets

communications equipment." In all these circumstances, international competition has been sharpened by fierce price-cutting and massive capital investments by the dominant U.S. and Japanese suppliers.

Moreover, barriers which have long separated different parts of the industry, have been crashing under the impact of technological convergence. The latest example is IBM's major advance into telecommunications through its proposed investment this week in the U.S. long-distance carrier MCI. All these developments might seem to argue for further rationalisation of the British electronics industry to produce fewer, stronger groups of international scale. As Mr James Prior, its chairman pointed out this week, even GEC has only half the output of its West German rival Siemens and is less than a quarter of the size of General Electric of the U.S.

At their present bargain



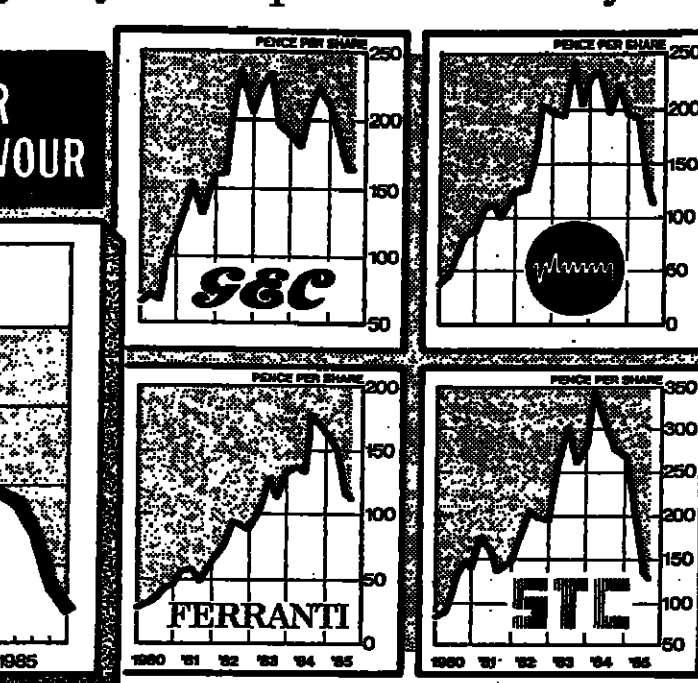
prices, many UK electronics companies would appear open to takeovers by anyone with strong balance sheets. However, in spite of recent Government hints that such a consolidation might be advantageous, there are many commercial and political obstacles.

The prices at which many electronics companies would now be likely to attract predators are lower than those which the City already finds cheap," according to Mr Douglas Hawkins of stockbrokers James Capel. Indeed, he and other analysts believe that the absence of any merger moves to put a floor under the market may mean that prices will slide further.

Though some younger electronics manufacturers, notably Acorn Computers and Sinclair Research, have recently had to be rescued from severe financial difficulties, none of the bigger and older companies seems remotely in danger of collapse. Indeed, some, including Ferranti and Racal, have actually increased profits though not always by as much as the City had hoped a year or so ago.

What really seems to be worrying the City is how the industry will meet the mounting pressures to adapt traditional businesses to radically changing markets. Of all the forces for change within the UK, the most far-reaching is the impact of the liberalisation of the telecommunications market and the privatisation of British Telecom.

Both Plessey and GEC face much stiffer competition in public switching, long an important source of profit, than they did. Indeed, the decision to pit exchanges developed by Sweden's L. M. Ericsson against System X, STC, which was pushed out of the System X programme three years ago, still has highly profitable BT orders for older TXE-4A exchanges, but these are set



to fall off sharply after next year. BT's £180m bid for 51 per cent of Canada's Mitel, now before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, has heightened fears in the rest of the industry that BT orders for private telecommunications equipment such as FAXs will also be much harder to come by in the future.

Plessey and STC have responded by trying to diversify: the former by entering the U.S. telecommunications market, the latter through the £411m purchase of computer maker ICL last year and a planned £80m investment in

Much of the concern of the City hinges on the calibre and adaptability of management

expanded volume microchip production.

But Plessey faces a huge challenge trying to establish a profitable telecommunications business in the U.S., where deepening losses have forced cutbacks by its Stromberg-Carlson subsidiary. Most brokers' analysts expect STC's next set of figures, due out in August, to be sharply down.

Ironically, after its near-collapse in 1981, profits from ICL are today widely thought to be underpinning many of STC's other businesses. But the City remains far from convinced that STC can achieve its stated goal of integrating its own communications products with ICL's computers to create a profitable new business in electronic information systems. Telecommunications liberalisation has, by contrast, created

a promising new opening for Racal, which is forging ahead in cellular mobile radio telephony. But investment in its UK network is still consuming large amounts of cash, while profits from its U.S. data communications business, its largest source of revenue, seem likely to remain under pressure.

In spite of the increasing unpredictability of the markets in which they operate, the problems facing Britain's electronics companies clearly do not stem from any serious shortage of new opportunities. Much of the concern in the City hinges on the calibre and adaptability of management.

Within the industry, British Telecom and GEC are the only companies with the financial resources to conduct a large-scale reorganisation. The idea of strengthening their home bases further through mergers could be attractive to both companies and to some parts of the Government. But in practice, it would be likely to stir up a hornet's nest.

Government thinking in this area has been obscured in the past few weeks by the emission from Whitehall of several confusing signals. Earlier this month, Lord Lucas of Chilworth, a trade Minister, caused widespread surprise by appearing to favour further electronics industry mergers, particularly in telecommunications. But since then the Minister has seemed to point in the opposite direction.

GEC's intense caution about spending its £1.5bn cash mountain, for which it has been so

widely criticised in the past, may provide it with fresh expansion opportunities today, though its share price has not always matched other companies in a rising market. GEC has often come into its own during lean periods while its competitors suffered.

But a bid by GEC for almost any of its smaller UK electronics rivals would undoubtedly court monopolies objections, since most of them compete against it for defence orders. By the same token, national security arguments would be bound to rule out bids from overseas.

The industry's current predicament crystallises the tensions inherent in the Government's policy of actively promoting more vigorous competition within the UK at a time when the imperatives of survival on world markets increasingly require companies big enough to command international economies of production. This is equally true in defence and in telecommunications.

The Government blames industry for not expanding aggressively enough and argues that other European countries face the same problem. However, Britain's pioneering role in opening its telecommunications market to wider international competition has placed its industries in a more exposed position because none of its neighbours has yet reciprocated.

The difficulties in the Government's position are clearly visible in its ambivalent attitude towards British Telecom. Whitehall alternates between viewing BT as a dangerously uncontrollable monopolist and as a brilliant commercial success which offers one of the country's best hopes for capturing a bigger share of world high-technology markets.

So far, BT has remained largely uncommenced by the City's high-technology gloom. But it has yet to prove that it can manage effectively an expansion into new high-risk businesses, particularly overseas. Moreover, the obstinacy with which it is resisting Mercury's demands for full interconnection with its network suggests that BT is well aware that profits from its UK business are vulnerable.

In the short-run, the electronics companies can live through a period of City disapproval. But if the current disenchantment is prolonged and profits do not improve, the consequences may become much more serious.

For an industry where the cost of staying in the game is rising every year, competitiveness can only be maintained if investors are prepared to stump up large amounts of cash.

Going through a bad spell

Voting starts today for the next general election. The General, Municipal and Borough Councils' Union — and dirty tricks are already being played.

The three leading candidates are Tom Burlinson, the GMB's northern region secretary, and John Edmunds and David Warburton, both national officers. All three are middle-of-the-road Labour men, though with widely differing styles.

Yesterday, a press notice boldly headed "Militant" landed on the desk of most industrial correspondents. "Militant" newspaper calls for support for John Edmunds (sic) as GMB secretary," it announced.

It credits Edmunds with support for Militant's front organisation and a strike in local authorities, with opposition to "Kinnock and Hattersley's line" which has been the rope supporting the hanging man. So suspicious minds are wondering who is poisoning the Militant branch.

If we were to support anyone," said Walsh, "it would, I suppose, be Edmunds. But we don't think he wants the death of capitalism, and we know how to spot it."

Support from Militant these days is a moderate union like the GMBU is off the kind Lenin meant when he mused about the rope supporting the hanging man. So suspicious minds are wondering who is poisoning the Militant branch.

Suspicious were aroused, says deputy librarian Nils Palmberg, when libraries in Moscow and Leningrad began to ask for particularly curious books. One volume requested went into great detail about the facilities and navigation of Sweden's northern Baltic ports.

Other requests revealed a special interest in one parish to the east of Lund. "Apparently banal," says Palmberg — except that the parish contains some military aircraft and the exercise area for a tank

Men and Matters

support for Kinnock, his relative moderation in most things, and his regret that he could not leave his supporters.

But if he was horrified, Militant were puzzled. Lyn Walsh, the paper's assistant editor, had not heard of the press release. And a call to Liverpool, where the release apparently originated, revealed similar bewilderment among the Merseyside comrades.

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Lip service

Large pink cardboard boxes bearing the inscription "Wet n' Wild" — something glamorous for the eyes, lips and nails — are being pushed through the letter-boxes of shareholders in Pavilion, the company that was Sangers before it bought a down-market U.S. cosmetics company, renounced its full listing and joined the Unlisted Securities Market.

This is the way Pavilion presents its first set of accounts — and in an accompanying news release it describes the play as "novel" and praises the annual report as "eye-catching and colourful." Certainly, no care has been spared. Inside the box the report is colour coordinated to match the goodies beneath — a range of Wet n' Wild lipsticks in mauves, blues, and reds arranged in a pink bri-ayon mould.

Overheard during the final approach of the Manchester shuttle to Heathrow: "Oh look, you can see the houses getting cheaper the nearer we get."

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Lucky number

Alan Thomas was one of nine computer men who backed a winner in 1971 when they bailed out the ailing systems house, Data Logic, with £50,000 of their own money. Seven years later they shared £3m from its sale to Cossor Electronics.

Now Thomas is to become vice-president of Raytheon Cossor and Data Logic's parent company, and president and chief executive of Raytheon Europe International.

Thomas, 41, a chartered engineer and an accountant, has been managing director of Data Logic since 1972. Its business is mainly in commercial systems

banks and business houses. A typical Data Logic operation was the setting up of a definitive system of stocktaking for Britain's pubs with Allied Breweries. But it has some experience with defence systems in which U.S.-based Raytheon, with 73,000 employees worldwide, specialises.

With Thomas's new appointment, Raytheon's European HQ will move from Geneva to London. He stays as Data Logic's chairman ("they thought it would be a good idea for me to keep some close contact with the company"). What happened to the rest of the Magnificent Nine? Thomas says: "Several of them are still directors of the company. One got out and became a farmer. They're all doing pretty well."

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Come-down

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ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT

The role of UK interest rates

By Samuel Brittan

THE BIGGEST obstacle the Confederation of British Industry faces in its new campaign to reduce domestic interest rates is the buoyancy of the UK economy shown in its own trends inquiry.

It still remains true that the British economy has withstood the emergency increases in interest rate last January—which have only gradually abated—far better than most people thought possible.

The June trends inquiry shows order books in manufacturing close to the strongest for eight years.

Even the 25 forecasters tabulated by the Financial Times have become on average more optimistic since the budget. After allowing for one-off favourable distortions, such as catch-up after the coal strike and the rush to order capital equipment before the fiscal subsidies run out, they are still surprised by the strength of the upturn. The much-heralded U.S. slowdown has also had less impact than expected in Europe—partly because the slowdown is in output rather than domestic demand.

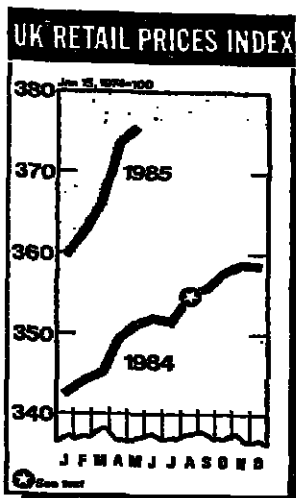
How about the inflation outlook?

The timing of a reduction in the headline 7 per cent rate is affected by the accident of the month-to-month movements of the RPI last year. As the small chart shows, there was a very tiny increase in the RPI between May and June in 1984 and an actual drop between June and July. Thus comparisons now with a very low level of the index.

It is not until August 1985—the figures for which will be published in September—that the headline inflation figure can be expected to show a really sharp drop.

It is true that even these figures are influenced by import costs, which have been rising far more slowly. But domestically generated costs have also accelerated slightly. Even if one discounts the alarmist official estimates of labour costs in manufacturing (because they understate the pressure of productivity) the CBI's own figures suggest that pay settlements have edged upwards.

The main piece of evidence suggesting strong disinflation relates to the reports of a standstill in house prices. In its present mood, however, the Treasury is more likely to press



home any advantage on this from than take it as a reason to relax.

The Treasury can now follow two alternative courses of action. It can follow the CBI advice and go all out for a reduction of interest rates sufficient to take 2 per cent off mortgage rates and knock nearly 1 per cent off price inflation for the time being. The aim would be to exert the maximum influence on inflationary expectations at the beginning of the 1985-86 wage round.

Alternatively, the Treasury could concentrate on the ability of companies to finance inflationary settlements. There has been a weakening of the whole notion of a fixed wage round following in the wake of key settlements. Ability to pay now seems a much more potent factor than precise perceptions of the inflation rate. This line of thinking would point to keeping sterling as high as can be got away with in order to exert maximum direct pressure on prices, profit margins, and industry's ability to pay higher wages.

The second line of thinking is the one that policymakers now find the more attractive, whether the CBI likes it or not. This does not mean that sterling will be allowed to become heavily overvalued as in 1980 or like the dollar recently.

If sterling soars well above DM4, or if the dollar crashes, I would expect strong and early action to reduce interest rates. But while the pound is in roughly in its present ball

Keeping sterling high to exert maximum pressure on prices, profit margins, and industry's ability to pay higher wages

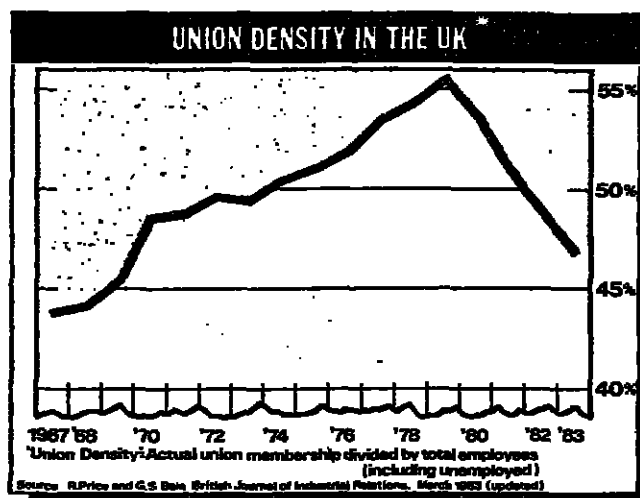
park (which is about the same as the first half of 1984 both on the trade-weighted average and against the mark) I would expect only small and gradual interest rate reductions.

The Treasury's interest rate tactics cannot be divorced from its other battle front against the spending departments. The new realism which emerged in the closing years of the Callaghan Government and contributed to the election of Mrs Thatcher in 1979 is a thing of the past. Governments are again expected to provide free lunches.

However many times Mrs Thatcher reshuffles the Cabinet, she is still always left with a spineless majority. One supposedly "dry" Minister after another has been to be a "consolidator" or one of those who want to stay in power for its own sake, which is a perfect recipe for losing.

How will the Chancellor react to being "boxed in"? Contrary to many City commentators, the Treasury seems to expect the pressure on public spending to come in 1986-87 rather than the present financial year. The London Business School sees no scope for the planned tax cuts in the 1986 and 1987 Budgets.

The Prime Minister and Chancellor will make the most of such estimates to rein in other spending colleagues as much as they can. But the fall-back position is apparent: if government spending



breaks its planned bounds, or oil revenues fall, the temptation will be to preserve some room for tax cuts by offsetting a higher PSBR with fairly tight money. The Chancellor has already prepared the ground with his Budget remark—which was not the favourite sentence of his official advisers—about the balance between fiscal and monetary policy not being "immutable".

If business leaders do not like this mixture, they should ask themselves how they have used the very large increases in profits they have enjoyed.

Observing that companies have used their improved financial position not to invest in new jobs, but to finance pay increases and invest in labour-saving equipment, it would hardly be surprising if policymakers were to ask: "Would the outlook for jobs be any worse and would not the outlook for inflation be much better if the exchange rate were somewhat on the high side and profits a bit more difficult to earn?"

Whether official policy is right or wrong, it is best to discuss it in terms of the instruments which the Treasury and Bank can influence directly, such as public sector borrowing or interest rates—or measure at least roughly such as the exchange rate, output and prices.

The monetary aggregates are now far too misleading for serious targeting. Just as the Bank is right to be scornful of Mo (money stock and coin) as other than a spot check on

Nominal GDP, so the Treasury is right to scorn its previous favourite child, Sterling M3.

The fall in velocity of this last measure since 1980 has reduced Nominal GDP by £40bn per annum—and twice that amount for anyone who went by the previous rising trend.

What is true is that there has been an unexplained rise in corporate borrowing and a build-up in personal liquid assets. Policy makers hope these represent long-term investments rather than immediate purchasing power, but are none too confident.

They clearly do need weapons to discourage any sudden and unexpected tendency to spend this liquid reserve. Such weapons exist in the shape of interest rate changes and the consumer tax regulator—both especially effective if they are believed to be temporary. If they are politically unpopular, so are more technical-sounding alternatives.

The biggest puzzle about the British economy is in a different area. It is why earnings per head have been rising by 7½ to 9 per cent per annum for nearly two years while inflation has mostly been at 5 per cent, measured productivity growth at around 2 per cent, and unemployment 13 per cent and rising.

Part of the answer is that unemployment is no longer a good measure of economic slack and that many barely acknowledged symptoms of boom—such as rising profits, selective skill and capacity

shortages, heavy loan demand and high interest rates—have been with us for some time.

But making all allowances, it does seem that private employers have been paying much larger wage increases than they have needed to. Their behaviour—and especially that of their personnel departments—represents a lagged response to the growth of union power several years ago, a growth which has now gone into reverse.

The percentage of employees belonging to a trade union reached a peak of 54.8 per cent for the whole economy in 1979 and in 1983 was down to 46.9 per cent. These percentages exaggerate the decline. If the unemployed are removed from the denominator of potential membership, the decline is reduced to 4 percentage points. Some of the decline undoubtedly reflects the fall in the proportion of potential employees in manufacturing, as a proportion of total employment, rather than union weakness as such.

Nevertheless, the trend is clearly in the right direction. Specific events such as members' rejection of strike calls in the public sector, or insistence on ballots, are as important as the "union density" percentages. The great liberating event comparable to President Reagan's victory over the air traffic controllers in his first few months of office, has been the recent victory over the Scargill miners' strike.

Just as the decline in unionisation in the U.S. created the preconditions for the Reagan boom, and the more significant longer term wave of U.S. jobs creation so the less dramatic decline in British union power could create conditions for similar developments here—although they will be slowed by the Cabinet's squeamishness on rent decontrol of new tenancies and Wages Councils.

Too many economists and commentators shy away from these subjects either because of the paucity of formal models for dealing with them, or more likely because of fear of labels such as "anti-union" or "right wing". It is not only Casandra who is unpopular, but even the bringer of better tidings.

Lombard

A free market in conveyancing

By Sue Cameron

THE POLITICAL arithmetic of ending the solicitors' current monopoly on conveyancing would appear to be simple: there are almost 43,000 practising solicitors in England and Wales—as against some 10m home owners of whom an estimated 500,000 move house each year. Given the numbers involved, it is not surprising that the Government has committed itself to breaking the monopoly by allowing banks, building societies and a new sub-profession of licensed conveyancers into the market. Yet the same government is making extraordinarily heavy weather out of honouring its popular promise in full.

It appears to have boxed itself into an uncomfortable corner: the Cabinet is understood to be deadlocked over the question of how banks and building societies should be allowed to operate in the conveyancing market; two notable lawyers—Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, and Professor Julian Farrand, chairman of the Government's own committee on conveyancing—have publicly poured scorn on some of the arguments being put forward by ministers for limiting the financial institutions' freedom to operate, and there is mounting criticism in the press to the effect that the Government is reneging on the spirit if not the letter of its commitment.

The focus for the criticism is Lord Hailsham, the 77 year old Lord Chancellor. He is concerned that solicitors employed by banks and building societies might find themselves on the horns of a professional dilemma should the interests of their clients and their employers clash. He believes there would be a particular risk of such conflict of interest arising when it came to solicitors giving objective advice on finance to clients. His preferred solution to the problem is to ban the financial institutions from doing conveyancing for their own—but not each other's—borrowers.

But the result of these arguments is that the Government has laid itself open to attack on a number of fronts: Lord Hailsham's opponents already responsible for encouraging competition in the professions.

point out that the professional expertise of solicitors lies in the law—not in financial consultancy.

Free marketeers claim Lord Hailsham's proposals are impractical—and that their real aim is to discourage financial institutions from entering the conveyancing market.

Some claim that lawyers who have risen to high political office are using their positions to protect their own instead of further the public interest.

This last line of attack is by far the most insidious. But it is also the most difficult to counter—particularly when Lord Hailsham's own arguments, whether right or wrong, are open to dispute. Lord Hailsham himself can lay some claim to being a reforming Lord Chancellor—not least because of the much-needed Civil Justice Review he has initiated. But such considerations are likely to carry little weight with conspiracy theorists who are only too anxious to put two and two together and make six.

Yet perhaps the Government could find ways out of its presentational impasse. It could, for example, ban financial institutions from employing solicitors to do conveyancing—and allow them only to use the new breed of licensed conveyancers who will face no conflict of interest. Or it could adopt a free market approach but draw up formal procedures for employed solicitors to follow if they faced a conflict of interest. It could even leave open the option of reimposing a ban on financial institutions offering conveyancing if practical experience suggested that would be to everyone's advantage. It could also make more effort to ensure banks and building societies did not use their financial muscle to gain unfair advantage in the conveyancing market—perhaps along the lines suggested by Sir Gordon Borrie.

One other possibility would be to take the decision out of the hands of the Lord Chancellor's department, where many officials are lawyers, and give it to the Department of Trade and Industry which is already responsible for encouraging competition in the professions.

Money purchase pension plans

From the Secretary, Superannuation Arrangements for the University of London

Sir,—In her defence of money purchase pension plans, Geraldine Kaye (June 20), implies that the example of FSSU (federated superannuation system for universities) as evidence of structural unsoundness fails, because what was wrong with FSSU was the choice of investment medium and its performance.

While it is true that had investment decisions played a large part in bringing the "old" FSSU into disrepute, there were two other significant defects. One of these was inflation, which, just before retirement, could suddenly erode irretrievably the benefits even of wise investments (and there were some). The other was individual idiosyncrasy. Even where a member was not deliberately perverse—some people did refuse or omit to provide for the problem of a change of circumstance late in life. It would be expensive to procure widow's benefits on marriage just before retirement, and impossible afterwards. These are both structural problems faced by any personal pension plan. The element of insurance implicit in a collective employer-sponsored plan works both ways, time against inflation, and over groups, to equalise relative deprivation.

Please do not suppose that I am saying that money purchase can never work. In a group of papers presented to the Pensions Management Institute (London Region) in 1984, Andrew Wilson, David Wood and I argued that money purchase could have a place in an employer's benefit strategy. I know that Geraldine remembers my last paragraph is an almost word-for-word quotation from my paper.

Our argument was that money purchase should not form the whole of the plan; that the insurance and inflation elements should be catered for by non-money purchase means; and that the overall structure of the plan needed very careful design.

There is no magic wand which will turn money purchase from frog to handsome prince overnight.

Nicholas Ryan, 4 Gower Street, WC1.

Plethora of legislation

From the Chairman, Bar Association for Commerce, Finance and Industry.

Sir—There has been in recent years a growing degree of concern within commerce and industry in general, and more

Letters to the Editor

particularly among those of us who work as lawyers in those fields, about the increasing volume of legislation on many different subjects with which we have to comply and of the consequent burden and cost of compliance. This is not a phenomenon confined to the UK. At a recent conference in Brussels there were presentations by representatives of the national associations of the UK, Germany, France, Belgium and Italy who all expressed the same anxiety that this burden showed no signs of decreasing. The volume of law grows year by year regardless of the political complexion of the Government in office.

One of the problems we face is that there is pressure for more legislation from many different quarters, and it results in new laws from various government departments dealing with diverse subjects. The problem is aggravated by the eagerness of the EEC Commission to push draft directives aimed at the harmonisation of law in many fields regardless of whether or not harmonisation is either desirable or indeed justifiable by reference to the Treaty of Rome.

In the face of this burden of legislation it is gratifying to see that the Government now appreciates that something needs to be done about it. The recent Department of Trade and Industry report "Burdens on business" shows that for the first time one particular government department has taken it upon itself to look at the problem overall rather than from the limited point of view of its own legislative activity. It is by no means clear yet to what extent this realisation of the problem will give rise to practical steps to alleviate it, but this at least is a start. It is regrettable in the face of this that another government department, namely the Home Office, was last year wholly unresponsive to protests from the CBI, trade associations, professional bodies and many others concerning the requirement in the Data Protection Act 1984 of registration of the use in electronic data processing of programmes covering personal data. It was an almost universal cause of protest that the requirement of registration of such uses was going to create an enormous and a totally unnecessary administrative burden on users of computers and other electronic devices. It seemed strange at the time that a Government committed to restricting the growth of the public sector and to reducing

the burdens which industry has to bear should impose this unnecessary requirement, and in so doing set up yet another government body in the form of the Data Protection Registrar. Now that the report from the DTI has appeared, this unresponsiveness on the part of the Home Office seems all the more remarkable. I would hope, nevertheless, that the publication of this report can be taken as marking a turning point and that all government departments will from now on think carefully before proposing new legislation which adds to the overhead burdens which commerce and industry have to bear.

The emphasis in the report is on the burdens, particularly the cost burdens, which compliance with legislation places on small businesses, and this is understandable because of the Government's wish to foster the growth of small businesses. It should not be overlooked, however, that the burden of compliance is also very serious from the point of view of larger companies which are very much in the public eye and whose managements are very anxious to ensure that they comply with the law as far as is humanly possible.

H. Mitchell, 183, Euston Road, N.W.1.

British business schools

From Professor of Finance and Accounting, Cranfield School of Management

Sir,—No doubt adopting the radical proposals by Professors Griffiths and Murray would rather upset the existing cosy arrangements in British university business schools. But surely they are right to argue that most business school staff are too much orientated towards fellow-academics and not enough towards business management.

Does any business school think "The customer is always right"? Not likely: the business schools claim to know better (like the gentleman in Whitehall?). And as Professor Kennerley points out (June 24), once your stout is in the trough, it's not easy removing it.

Personally, I believe the business schools merely exemplify a more widespread fault. The whole British system of education, as a rule, pays far too much attention to the interests of the producers

(teachers) and far too little to the interests either of taxpayers or of the consumers (children, students, parents, employers).

Privatise business schools by all means. But why not privatise all schools?

Prof. D. R. Myddelton, Cranfield Institute of Technology, Bedford.

Athens airport and security

From the Greek Ambassador, London

Sir,—In your leading article "The impotence of power" (June 25) you state that "the security record at Athens airport... is not good." This is simply untrue.

The security record is a matter of facts and figures. These show that between 1978 and 1984 a total of 21 hijackings took place around the world. Of these, 62 originated in the United States, and 43 in Europe apart from Greece, as against two in Greece itself.

Even if it may be invidious to single out other airports, it should be stated in order to put this into perspective that over the last 15 months alone three hijackings have originated at Frankfurt, for example, as well as three others in Western Europe.

N. Kyriazides, Greek Embassy, London.

Retirement relief

From Mr O. Stanley

Sir,—When the Finance Bill 1985 was published in March you were kind enough to print a letter from me drawing attention to Schedule 17 about retirement relief. In the original Bill it was proposed that no appeal should lie against the decision of the Board of Inland Revenue as to whether any taxpayer was ill enough to get this relief.

I said at the time that if Parliament would accept this it would accept anything. My confidence is restored—Parliament has not accepted this sub-paragraph, and Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Treasury, graciously accepted an amendment to throw it out.

It is important that the Government's sensitivity on this point be recognised. There is, however, another lesson to be learned. At present the Inland Revenue is expressing itself puzzled at its unpopularity throughout the country. When the department adopts this kind of posture, is it any wonder that we suspect the department of overweening arrogance and a desire for unlimited powers?

Oliver Stanley, 5, The Park, NW1.

New York partner in London

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Baxter Travenol lines up \$2.5bn credit

By William Hall in New York

BAXTER Travenol Laboratories, the U.S. medical products group, arranged a \$2.5bn credit facility yesterday as speculation mounted on Wall Street that it was about to mount a new bid for American Hospital Supply Corporation.

Details of the loan came less than 24 hours after American Hospital had rebuffed a hostile bid from Baxter Travenol and reiterated its wish to merge with Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) in a stock swap designed to create the world's largest integrated health care group. Baxter Travenol said the loan facility, put together by a group of 21 banks led by First National Bank of Chicago and Morgan Guaranty Trust, was "substantially oversubscribed."

Although the company had indicated that it was unwilling to proceed with an unfriendly bid for American Hospital Supply, there was speculation yesterday that, given Wall Street's growing unhappiness with the planned HCA/American Hospital Supply merger, Baxter Travenol might change its mind and proceed with a rival bid.

In early trading yesterday, American Hospital shares rose 1 1/2% to \$38 1/2, capitalising the group at \$2.5bn. Baxter Travenol said it was extremely puzzled by American Hospital's rejection of its earlier offer which was \$15 a share higher than the HCA offer. Baxter had offered \$50 a share for American Hospital Supply, half in cash and half in Baxter common stock.

Renewed attacks in S. Africa

Continued from Page 1

cent rioting between township and migrant hostel workers which cost 18 lives.

Three grenades exploded killing three more men in Duduza near Nigel and another man was killed in the same way in KwaNtsha township near Springs, also on the East Rand.

A limpet mine killed another man elsewhere in KwaNtsha which was also the scene of an attack on the black suffragan bishop of Johannesburg, the Rev Simeon Nkomo. The bishop escaped unhurt when three masked men fired several shots at him after setting fire to his house.

Meanwhile, Umtata, capital of the "independent" black homeland of Transkei, was deprived of water and power yesterday after three separate limpet mine explosions.

Police and army troops cordoned off government buildings and thousands of people were evacuated from offices as they searched for more bombs. The explosions follow a robbery at the Bank of Transkei on Monday when armed raiders stole R350,000 (\$178,500) in an operation which police believe may have been aimed at securing finance for further terrorist activity in an area which is traditionally a stronghold of ANC support.

At the conclusion of its 10-day conference held in secret at Kabwe in Zambia the ANC announced its intention to step up the armed struggle against the South African Government and warned that the distinction between "hard" physical targets and "soft" human targets was likely to disappear in the process.

● An ANC spokesman in Kusaka refused comment on the attacks, Reuters reports. Questioned about Transkei attacks, he said: "So far we have no comment to make," adding that "we are also unable to comment on the... grenade attacks. Ten deaths were caused by the blasts in South Africa, where unrest has claimed more than 450 lives in 16 months."

London halts tin trading after cash price soars

By John Edwards, Commodities Editor, in London

TRADING on the tin market was suspended yesterday by the London Metal Exchange after a day of confusion, allegations of manipulation, and a spectacular jump of £435 in the price of cash tin to a record level of £10,325 (\$13,288) a tonne.

The trouble started when, after a letter of complaint from one of the ring-dealing member companies, the exchange announced that it was holding an immediate investigation into the market situation.

Each member company has to report to LME today its outstanding tin market commitments with all the other member companies. The idea is to find out why the cash price of tin has risen so sharply, particularly this week.

However, the immediate reaction of the market was for the cash price premium over the price for delivery in three months time to soar, doubling from around £370 to over £800 a tonne - an "intolerable" level, according to Mr Ted Jordan, chairman of the exchange's management committee.

According to Mr Jordan, the exchange is not worried about the market being "cornered," since there were plentiful offers of cash tin yesterday, especially by the buffer stock of the International Tin Council.

What is worrying the exchange is the enormous increase in the cost of "borrowing" tin for a short period (by buying cash tin and simultane-

ously selling the same amount for future delivery in a few days or weeks' time). Those unfortunate traders being forced to "borrow" since they cannot meet their immediate commitment to deliver are having to pay as much as £400 a day or £650 for two days.

That is considered to be intolerable, although the buffer stock manager, Mr Pieter de Koenig, has warned repeatedly in recent months that he will expect delivery of any tin sold to him.

Traders who took the risk of selling tin three months ago in anticipation of lower prices are now having to pay a heavy price unless they have supplies available to deliver.

Commodities, Page 36

Italians to present compromise plan on car exhaust wrangle

By Paul Cheeseright in Brussels

SIGNOR Alfredo Biondi, the Italian Environment Minister, will today present a compromise plan in an attempt to solve the wrangle over new and stricter car exhaust standards that has split the European Community.

Environment ministers meet in Luxembourg in an attempt to devise vehicle emission standards that would have the equivalent environmental effect of standards already prevailing in the U.S. That means specifying limits for the emission of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxide.

The Italian plan will be worked out with the European Commission, whose proposed standards, announced early this month, have aroused opposition from the Ten. West Germany especially thinks the proposed standards are not strict enough and is broadly supported by the Netherlands, Den-

mark and Greece. Britain and France, who are said to have been co-ordinating their line for today's meeting, supported by Belgium, consider they are too strict.

There is intense pressure for a rapid settlement. West German legislation, missing only the environmental standard numbers, is poised over the statute book and permits incentives to encourage the purchase of low-polluting cars.

There is concern that if there is no rapid Community solution countries will tend to go their own way, breaking up the internal market in cars at just the time wider efforts are being made to reduce internal trade barriers.

The motor industry is desperate for a clear guideline. In Germany, where the uncertainty is most acute, car sales are running some 20 per cent down on last year.

formally on the table, involve, in the most contentious medium-sized car category with engine sizes of 1400-2000 cc, limits of 30 grammes a test for carbon monoxide, 4 grammes for nitrogen oxide and 8 grammes for hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxide combined.

It is assumed in Brussels that a compromise on the figures is out of reach. Therefore the Italian plan might involve elements leading to greater flexibility.

Ideas circulating include different standards for different technologies, abandoning the specific nitrogen oxide limit, keeping only the carbon monoxide and combined hydrocarbon-nitrogen oxide limit, and enlarging the margin between the type approval standard and the more relaxed product conformity standard.

Why Bonn cannot yield, Page 2

UK restarts fuel oil purchases in bid to conserve coal stocks

By Ian Hargreaves and Maurice Samuelson in London

THE UK Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) has resumed purchases of fuel oil in an apparent attempt to conserve coal as it rebuilds stocks in preparation for next winter.

The board is also running at least one oil-fired power station - at Richborough on the Kent coast in south-east England. That is a departure from normal seasonal practice, since oil-fired stations are much more expensive to run than coal or nuclear stations and are normally switched off in the summer.

At this stage, CEGB oil purchases are thought to be relatively modest - two consignments totalling 50,000 tonnes have been purchased. But the move appears to reflect concern that the board might not be able to meet its target of 23m to 24m tonnes of coal in stock by November.

That is the target agreed with the Government, which is anxious to ensure that the country should be

able to withstand any disruption to coal supplies caused by industrial action in either the coal or the rail industry next winter.

At present, just over 14m tonnes of coal is at the power stations, compared with about 11m tonnes when the year-long miners' strike ended in March.

Although the rate of deliveries from the National Coal Board has increased from 1.3m tonnes a week in early April to about 1.7m tonnes a week, there is concern that on current levels of coal-burn, the stock target may not be met. Between the end of May and the end of June, the stockpile increased by only 1m tonnes.

The board has also drawn down almost all its supplies of imported coal from its stockpile in Rotterdam.

Concern about stock levels has been heightened by the chilly early summer weather in Britain, which

is requiring the CEGB to produce about 7 per cent more power than normal for this time of year.

The board is also believed to be suffering from a maintenance backlog on the coal plants that were kept going throughout the miners' strike. Its nuclear plants, too, are operating slightly below normal levels.

Whether the board will resort to even larger oil purchases is still under debate in Whitehall. The industry takes the view that a stockpile of normal commercial size - between 17m and 20m tonnes - is sufficient.

It is still not clear whether the cost of holding stocks above that level will be met by higher electricity prices next spring, or by some form of deferred payment scheme, which loads the cost on to the coal board. The deferred payment mechanism was used in the stock-hold that preceded the miners' strike.

Berri offers to move hostages

Continued from Page 1

the world community failed to react.

David Hoesung in Paris writes: France gave a cautious welcome to Mr Berri's proposals while making it clear it had no intention of playing the role of mediator.

Officials said that the Government had not been informed in advance of the proposals and had not received any official request from Mr Berri. But M Roland Dumas, the Foreign Minister, postponed his departure for a Franco-German meeting in Bonn to take charge of the issue.

A Foreign Ministry statement stressed that France was always available to help in protecting hu-

man life and went on to condemn strongly the taking of hostages as "unacceptable" and "unconditional" right to freedom.

In Vienna, the Austrian Foreign Ministry also said that in principle it would be willing to offer the use of its embassy in Beirut if that would help to save lives.

Israel, meanwhile, denied that it was about to free more of the estimated 135 south Lebanon detainees it is holding and repeated that further action would depend on the security situation on its northern border.

Reginald Dale in Washington writes: The hostage crisis has led to a marked increase in the number of

Americans who believe that the U.S. should distance itself from Israel so as to reduce the danger of anti-American terrorism in the Middle East, according to a nationwide opinion poll.

The poll appeared to confirm fears in Israel that its uncompromising public stand on the hostages may be undermining usually loyal American support for the close U.S.-Israeli relationship. It comes as number of U.S. officials are hoping that Israel will spontaneously release more than 700 Shia prisoners, as demanded by the hostage-takers, rather risk further deterioration in its vital relations with the U.S.

Lloyd's members to get no 'financial life-boat'

By John Moore in London

A SERIOUS row was developing last night between the authorities of the Lloyd's insurance market and 1,525 underwriting members who face £130m (\$165m) of losses.

Relations deteriorated between a steering committee representing 360 of the underwriting members and the Lloyd's insurance market after Mr Peter Miller, chairman of Lloyd's, told a meeting that no "so-called financial lifeboat" could be provided to help the underwriting members to meet their losses.

Mr Miller, at a morning meeting of underwriting members, disclosed that Lloyd's was to launch a new inquiry into how the underwriting members' affairs have been managed since 1982.

The inquiry team is to be headed by Mr John Davis, president of the Institute of Bankers, who will be assisted by Mr Henry Chester, a leading Lloyd's underwriter, and Mr Alan Brookland, an accountant who has specialised in Lloyd's affairs.

The steering committee of underwriting members said last night that Lloyd's moves "are unsatisfactory and provide no prospect of a solution to this affair."

The committee, led by Lord Goodman, said that all the available evidence "points to mismanagement and mismanagement of the underwriting members' affairs during the period 1982 to 1983 and particularly in the mid-1970s. The proposed inquiry into events since 1982, when new management took over, will not satisfy those members who intend not to pay money without first being satisfied that the deficits are properly due and are not related to fraud and misapplication of earlier years."

Underwriting members are angry that they are facing £130m of losses after £40m of their funds was misappropriated by two former managers of an underwriting agency who are now living abroad. Mr Miller said yesterday: "We share the outrage of the members upon whom a theft of £40m was perpetrated."

The underwriting members had been looking to Lloyd's to mount a rescue operation but at yesterday's meeting Mr Miller ruled that out. The one thing the ruling council cannot do, he said, "is to provide some sort of so-called financial lifeboat and then depart from the principle that we each individually have to respond for our share of the losses if, unhappily, they occur."

Mr Miller disclosed during the course of yesterday's meeting that Lloyd's investigators have confirmed the decision by Sir Peter Green, the former chairman of Lloyd's to close his own personal inquiry into the PCW underwriting agency just months before the scandal erupted in 1982.

Investigators said there was no attempt "by the chairman of Lloyd's to cover up anything either before or during the course of his informal inquiry. During the inquiry he asked all the right questions." Mr Simon Tuckey QC, heading the investigation into the affair, said that Sir Peter "concluded, rightly in my view, that there had been no dishonesty." Sir Peter had been studying the way in which an insurance contract had been arranged with the Unimar company in Monte Carlo.

● Mr Miller indicated yesterday that profits at Lloyd's for the last completed underwriting account will be "in the region of £50m," a sharp fall on the previous figure of £152m.

Cold comfort, Page 4

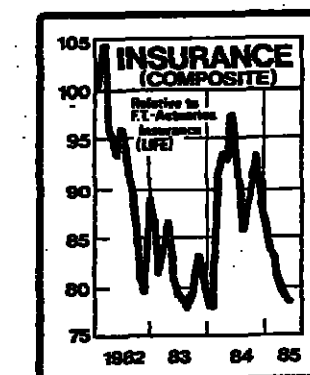
THE LEX COLUMN

Mercury below the horizon

When Cable & Wireless's 1984-85 figures came in above expectations yesterday, analysts tried their best to find some bad news tucked away in the announcement. After all, in the present market climate, any news from an electronics company makes the share price go down - and true to form, C & W's shares lost 15p to close at 50p.

Stripping out currency gains of £20m and Hong Kong Telephone's first full year of contribution, profits growth of something like 10 per cent does look a little pedestrian for a company on C & W's rating. But this analysis is rather unfair. C & W's business involves very high fixed costs with almost negligible incremental costs, and in the UK and the U.S. it is spending a lot of money building up infrastructure without yet reaping a reward. Start-up losses for Mercury, at £11m, are now at their peak and the operation should be breaking even by 1986-87. The U.S. ventures, too, should see margins improving from this year on, as higher volumes feed through to greater economies.

The best argument in Selincourt's favour is that the present management has transformed the company from a recession-hit disaster to a business making fairly respectable 6 per cent margins. It seems a little unfair to snatch success away now. Shareholders are being offered an historic exit p/o of over 12 - not exactly stingy for a textile company - and if the bid fails, the rights issue Selincourt will need to rebuild its reserves is bound to depress the share price. There is no evidence that Ms d'Abo could run the company any better; shareholders should only accept the offer if they are not prepared to back the existing management by putting up more money.



but Selincourt is still hoping that the trickle of acceptances being withdrawn might turn into a flood in time for tomorrow's close.

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Royal/LLA

If the owners of Abbey Life feel that they sold half of that business a little too cheaply, yesterday's purchase of Lloyd's Life by Royal must have been a mistake. Royal is paying seven times the notional net worth of Lloyd's Life or roughly the same multiple of prospective earnings as Abbey Life commands at yesterday's market price.

Admittedly, Royal is paying the premium needed for control and will see some short-term dilution. Lloyd's Life should declare a surplus of some £4.5m this year, which will not cover the net investment income on the £34m purchase price. Meanwhile, the deal will depress Royal's solvency margin some points to 60 per cent, which is lower than any of the composites but Commercial Union.

Selincourt

The only thing that is clear about Jennifer d'Abo's bid for Selincourt is that the fight will be close. Her shell company, Stormgard, now has around 40 per cent of acceptances.

Royal shareholders can scarcely cavil. Royal may well be the best equipped of the composites to ride the upturn in the U.S. underwriting cycle, but the memories of the through last year are still fresh: any improvement in the stability of Royal's earnings would be welcome - even if there were no growth prospects in the UK life sector.

As it is, Royal gains access to a fast-growing, unit-linked business and to an able management which the foreign bidders on the short-list might have had some difficulty keeping. While the expatriate business of Lloyd's Life is a useful addition, Royal will, presumably, still be keeping its eyes open for life expansion in the U.S. and Australia.

Ferranti

At one point yesterday morning, it seemed as if the market had Ferranti tagged as the company that would lead the other electronics majors to share prices below 100p. It was only necessary to read the words "uncertain demand" and "development costs" for the jobs for the year to mark the shares down 10 per cent, and to do so on results which were perfectly respectable: a pre-tax profit of £64m for the year to March still represents growth of almost a fifth, which is more than the rest of the sector has had to show for itself lately.

It takes a brave investor to go out and buy electronics shares at present, even on good results. Perhaps the problem is that even if Ferranti continues its growth in the current year - to perhaps £55m - that leaves the shares at 112p on a prospective multiple of about 12 times. That is modest by the standards of last summer, but it is still a premium rating and maybe a touch exposed at present.

The deeper reason for caution over Ferranti is the amount of its order book that relates to the Tornado project; without export sales, or a positive decision on the Eurofighter, avionics may be a bit stretched to earn its keep after 1989. And this year may prove that not even the most highly customised of chips can entirely avoid the silicon cycle. Between these two poles - long-term doubts in defence and immediate pressure in chips - Ferranti's excellent growth record may be getting harder to sustain.

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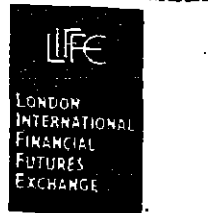
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Bombay	22	12	7	Bombay	22	12
Boston	22	12	7	Boston	22	12
Buenos Aires	22	12	7	Buenos Aires	22	12
Calcutta	22	12	7	Calcutta	22	12
Cardiff	22	12	7	Cardiff	22	12
Cebu	22	12	7	Cebu	22	12
Colon	22	12	7	Colon	22	12
Dublin	22	12	7	Dublin	22	12
Hong Kong	22	12	7	Hong Kong	22	12
London	22	12	7	London	22	12
Los Angeles	22	12	7	Los Angeles	22	12
Manila	22	12	7	Manila	22	12
Mumbai	22	12	7	Mumbai	22	12
Paris	22	12	7	Paris	22	12
San Francisco	22	12	7	San Francisco	22	12
Singapore	22	12	7	Singapore	22	12
Tokyo	22	12	7	Tokyo	22	12
Yokohama	22	12	7	Yokohama	22	12

Lawson rebuffs UK industry

Continued from Page 1

Interest rates were threatening company finances. "Company profitability last year was the highest ever recorded. Investment reached an all time high, and CBI surveys point to a further rise this year."

The CBI had told him that a 1 percentage point rise in interest rates cost industry £250m in a full year.

But Mr Lawson retorted: "One per cent extra on pay costs over £1bn a year and earnings in the private sector have risen by around 9 per cent, well above the rise in the cost of living."

"So lower pay settlements are far more important to business, even

than lower interest rates. Furthermore, if wages rise less fast and industry borrows less, that in itself will tend to bring about lower interest rates." It would also help in the creation of jobs.

Mr Lawson's stern lecture to industrialists appeared to leave the CBI unmoved, however. Sir Terence Beckett, the CBI's director general, replied that high rates on home loans (partly the result of the high level of short-term interest rates) were "an increasingly sensitive factor in wage bargaining."

In a statement, he said that the CBI was concerned about the level of wage settlements, but interest

rates needed also to come down to make Britain more competitive.

The public altercation between the Treasury and representatives of industry is the sharpest since 1982, when the CBI challenged the official view that the economy was recovering strongly.

Industry which was still suffering from very low profitability as a result of the recession had been calling for some relaxation of policy. This had prompted Sir Terence to make his famous speech at the 1980 CBI annual conference offering a "bare knuckle fight" with the Government, unless help were given to industry.

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SECTION II - COMPANIES AND MARKETS

FINANCIAL TIMES

Thursday June 27 1985

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Michelin set to launch first bond for six years

BY PAUL BETTS IN CLERMONT-FERRAND

MICHELIN, the French tyre group, is planning to return to the international capital market next week after an absence of six years with a Euro-franc convertible bond issue of up to FF 500m, senior Michelin executives disclosed at the company's headquarters last night.

This is the first Euro-franc convertible bond issue by a French private company since the Paris monetary authorities re-opened the Euro-franc bond market last month.

The new issue is part of the world's second largest tyre group's efforts to restructure its balance sheet. Michelin is expected to follow up its Euro-franc convertible bond issue with a bond issue with warrants on the domestic markets of around FF 1bn. Senior Michelin executives indicated in Clermont-Ferrand last night that these issues might be followed later with an equity rights issue.

The company obtained agreement to raise new equity by means of other than rights issues for a value of up to FF 30m. But Michelin executives said the company was not expected to take up that full amount immediately but was envisaging raising about FF 1.5bn in the near future.

The company's decision to return to the international capital markets reflects the recovery of the group's fortunes after three years of consecutive losses.

M. François Michelin, chairman of the tyre company which is France's second largest private concern, confirmed yesterday that the company expected to be close to break-even this year after a net loss of FF 2.2bn (\$333m) in 1984.

The company operated profitably in the first quarter of this year and cash flow is expected to total FF

1.7bn in the first half of 1985, roughly equivalent to cash flow in the whole of last year. Sales are expected to rise to around FF 50bn this year from FF 44.5bn in 1984.

After four years of expensive rationalisation throughout Europe the group's net debt has risen to about FF 30bn supported by only FF 10bn in equities.

Terms for the Euro-franc convertible bond issue have not been set, but M. Behrouz Chahid-Nourai, Michelin's finance director, promised there would be a novel incentive for investors. The lead managers of the issue are Lazard Frères de Paris and Credit Suisse First Boston of London.

Michelin shares have staged a strong rally on the Paris bourse in the wake of Michelin's cautious optimism about the future expressed at the company's annual meeting last Friday.

Renault to hive off agricultural activities

By David Housego in Paris

RENAULT, the French state car group, is to hive off its loss-making agricultural activities.

This was disclosed yesterday by M. Georges Besse, the new chairman of the company, who also announced that the group was pulling out of Renault's electronics joint venture with Allied Automotive of the U.S., and was negotiating for General Motors to absorb a substantial part of the output from its Gomez Palacio engine plant in Mexico.

The new measures, announced after a Renault board meeting, are in line with M. Besse's strategy of cutting costs and focusing the group's activities on car production.

The decision to hive off Renault's agricultural activities is a prelude to further efforts to negotiate a link-up with another agricultural machinery producer. Renault's agricultural division lost FF 200m-FF 300m (\$21m-\$32m) last year on a turnover of FF 2.5bn. Renault has about 18 per cent of the French tractor market.

M. Besse denied that Renault had any intention of abandoning its agricultural division. But its future has become more problematic since Tenneco, which took over International Harvester, made clear it was not interested in a technical or sales link with Renault. Earlier Renault, pushed by the French Government, had been interested in taking over IRI's French activities.

Renault's income last year of FF 12.5bn. M. Besse has already announced that the group would be cutting back its workforce by 21,000 over the next two years and has indicated that it intends to reduce car production capacity to 1.8m vehicles a day.

Renault had a 51 per cent stake in Renault, which has a high growth potential but is costly in investments. Allied has been eager to buy Renault's share and market Renault's products to other European car manufacturers.

IBM-MCI ALLIANCE THREATENS AT&T DOMINATION OF U.S. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Telephone battle lines drawn up

BY PAUL TAYLOR IN NEW YORK

HAD American Telephone & Telegraph's corporate elite been schooled in current U.S. street parlance, they might have described IBM's strategic alliance with MCI Communications as "totally awesome" - and for good reason.

Under the surprise deal, IBM will fold its Satellite Business Systems telecommunications service into MCI, acquiring in the process an initial 16 per cent stake in MCI, set to rise to 30 per cent. It will create an alliance bringing together the world's largest computer maker and AT&T's main rival in the cut-throat long-distance telephone business.

As it was, Mr. Randall Tobias, chairman of AT&T Communications, still the nation's dominant long-distance carrier, confined himself to more genteel comments. He noted simply that "IBM has now staked out a very big role in the long-distance market."

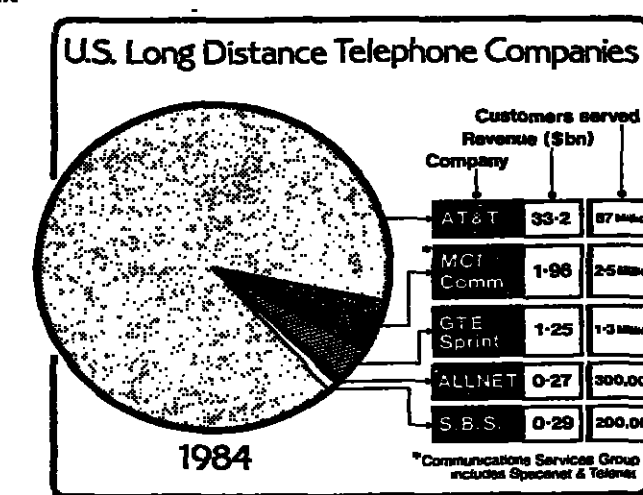
Yesterday, as more details of the IBM-MCI agreement emerged, Mr. Tobias' comments were seen by Wall Street and industry experts as perhaps understating the full impact of the deal.

The deal will provide MCI - whose freewheeling, battling origins still tinge its corporate image - with respectability and an entrée into the big business market for telecommunications. "This is the most important aspect of the agreement," says Mr. Harry Rosenthal of Wall Street analyst Bear Stearns.

By combining SBS's satellite systems and expertise in data transmission with MCI's proven market record in winning individual accounts, the new organisation will be better equipped to compete with AT&T.

Equally importantly, MCI is likely to gain access to IBM's computer technology as a result of the deal - a potentially vital ingredient in the telecommunications marketing battle as voice and data systems and technology converge in the office and as AT&T steps up its own push into the information processing industry.

The deal will instantly make IBM one of the biggest players in the



turbulent domestic long distance telephone market, give it access to MCI's electronic mail system and - following MCI's recent aggressive expansion overseas, particularly across in Europe - provide a possible basis for IBM's long-held dream of a global communications network linking computers around the world.

Although IBM is playing down its potential role as a "deep pocket" for MCI, the computer giant will be providing it with much-needed new capital. MCI's earnings and share price have come under increasing pressure because of the enormous costs of expanding its system, the high costs it faces to connect its customers to local telephone networks and AT&T's surprising aggressiveness in marketing its own long-distance services.

Under the terms of the deal IBM will be delivering not only the SBS network itself, valued at \$300m on the basis of the 45m MCI shares IBM will obtain as a result, but also up to an additional \$505m in fresh capital.

While the merger of SBS into MCI represents something of an admission of defeat for both IBM and SBS in their attempts to win a major portion of the cut price tele-

phone market - SBS's owners have pumped more than \$1.3bn into the venture but have garnered less than 1 per cent of the \$45bn-a-year market - the deal could accelerate the already apparent shake-out of the industry, putting new pressure on other long distance carriers like GTE Sprint, Allnet and ITT. It also indicates that while IBM is determined to be a long-term player in the telecommunications market, it has learned some lessons from the SBS experience. SBS, which has never made money and lost an estimated \$114m last year on revenues of \$290m, had been forced to switch from providing advanced commercial services to the more mundane business of selling cut-price long-distance services to individual customers.

In the end, with SBS not expected to make a profit before 1987 at the earliest and Comsat, one of the three original partners with IBM and Aetna, pulling out last year, IBM clearly concluded its best hopes lay in allying itself with MCI. Wall Street analysts also note that by acquiring the MCI equity stake, IBM is following a tried and tested strategic route which has earlier led to its acquisition of a 20 per cent stake in Intel, the chipmaker, and its equity position in Rolm, the ad-

vanced communications equipment manufacturer which IBM eventually acquired in a \$1.26bn deal eight months ago.

Some believe IBM could eventually end up acquiring all of MCI, a possibility that neither company will comment on at present.

While the agreement is likely to put pressure on AT&T, it could have some longer-term positive implications for the telephone giant. In particular, it may lead both to a more general acceptance that AT&T does indeed face competition in the long-distance business and pressure the FCC to ease continuing restrictions on it.

Mr. Tobias said: "This announcement should put to rest any remaining questions about the strength of the competition in the telecommunications business," apparently a reference to AT&T's consistent claim that it controls only around 64 per cent of the "competitive" long-distance market - and not the 80 per cent plus which the bald figures suggest.

Pointedly, he added: "There is now scant reason for maintaining any regulatory restraints imposed on AT&T. While some of its competitors, especially GTE Sprint, have recently been arguing for a limited re-regulation of the telephone market to ensure competition, AT&T has asked the Federal Communications Commission to hasten the deregulation process - including removing the restrictions which force AT&T to maintain a separate structure for its regulated long-distance telephone business and unregulated activities such as computer equipment sales."

But as far as Wall Street is concerned, the bottom line is clear. AT&T's shares continued to fall yesterday while IBM and MCI both gained. Mr. William McGowan, MCI's chairman, is widely credited for leading the battle in the 1970s against the AT&T telephone monopoly, and the IBM deal is likely to further increase the heat in the long-distance telephone market. "In the coming war with AT&T, MCI now has a working ally in IBM," says Mr. Rosenthal of Bear Stearns.

Gould takes \$150m charge as microchip sales decline

BY TERRY DOOSWORTH IN NEW YORK

THE depressed conditions in the U.S. semiconductor market claimed another victim yesterday, when Gould, the Illinois-based electronic systems and defence group, announced a \$150m write-off in the second quarter to cover cuts in its semiconductor operations.

The company's decision follows similar moves by several other leading U.S. electronics manufacturers, including a \$75m charge earlier this week at Mostek, the semiconductor subsidiary of United Technologies.

Gould said yesterday that the continued deterioration in the semiconductor market and resulting losses in its manufacturing operations were forcing it to contract. The charge would cover obsolete as-

sets, plant reductions, inventory valuations, offshores facilities and interest in overseas joint ventures.

Excluding the special write-off, the company expects earnings from continuing operations for the second quarter to be about 15 per cent below the 41 cents a share it earned in the first quarter of this year. Full-year earnings per share, again excluding the special write-off, are forecast to be slightly below the \$1.30 reported for 1984.

Gould put the blame for what it called an "extreme contraction and realignment" in the semiconductor industry on intense foreign competition and excess worldwide capacity which had caused a sharp drop in prices.

"As a result of the special write-off and substantial cost-reduction

measures, we expect that our semiconductor operations will return to profitability during the second half of 1985," the company added that the major focus of its future activities would be in the custom business, for standard cells, gate arrays and custom foundry programmes.

Intel, the California semiconductor manufacturer in which IBM has a 20 per cent stake, is to cut its worldwide staff of 24,200 by 950 to reduce its cost structure in the face of "continued adverse conditions" in the semiconductor industry.

The staff reduction is the second made by Intel this year. As part of the cuts, Intel is to phase out its oldest and smallest wafer fabrication plant in Santa Clara, because it is no longer large enough to be cost effective.

Nobel Industries will sell hydropower assets

BY DAVID BROWN IN STOCKHOLM

NOBEL Industries, the industrial group formed last year by the takeover by Bofors, the armaments and chemicals concern, of KemaNobel, Sweden's biggest chemicals group, is negotiating the sale of its hydropower assets to a consortium of domestic insurance companies for about SKr 1.5bn (\$179m).

Last year's SKr 3bn takeover of KemaNobel, engineered by financier Mr Erik Penser, stretched Bofors' resources and more than halved the company's equity-assets ratio to 12.9 per cent.

The new group, which with annual sales of some SKr 12bn is one of Sweden's 20 largest industrial companies, still faces a major task in

improving its relatively low profitability.

"Hydropower is a very low-yielding asset, and we need the cash, for example to pay off our loans," explains Mr Jan Kihlberg, the finance director.

The negotiations come in the midst of two other major asset disposals by Mr Penser worth a total of some SKr 1bn.

On Monday, the J.S. Saba wholesale and retail trading group sold its Svea property subsidiary for SKr 800m. This followed the announcement late last week of the SKr 455m sale of his 27 per cent stake in Kinnelk, the investment group.

Portuguese commercial bank off to good start

BY DIANA SMITH IN LISBON

THE first commercial bank to be established in Portugal in more than a decade made its formal appearance this week.

The Banco Commercial Portugues, based in Oporto, has signed its formal deeds after being granted a licence to operate two months ago. It was founded by a group of bankers and businessmen who subscribed capital of 3.3bn (\$18m) which is twice the minimum compulsory requirement.

The bank's appearance at the head of a queue of local applicants for commercial banking or building society licences is seen as an indication that entrepreneurs are ready to supply capital to dynamic new ven-

tures, in spite of Portugal's long-running government crises.

The fact that the bank's founders raised double the minimum required capital has encouraged the authorities to believe that new privately-owned domestic institutions can start off on a strong footing and operate effectively.

Most of the founders are from Oporto, traditional breeding ground for Portuguese private banking and hub of private industry. Several have shares in Sociedade Portuguesa de Investimentos (SPI), the first Portuguese financial institution to be formed after the 1975 revolution led to the nationalisation of private banks.

Borrowers risk capped floaters

BY ALEXANDER NICOLL IN LONDON

THREE more borrowers, including Italy as the first sovereign name and Nederlandsche Middenstands-bank as the first Dutch bank, were prepared yesterday to risk a waning appetite among investors for the Eurobond market's latest floating-rate notes with a maximum coupon.

A feature in a generally dull market across Europe was National Westminster Bank's plan to issue its first Swiss franc bond. Terms on the SwFr 300m issue, due to be indicated today by its subsidiary Handelsbank, will include the first issue of equity warrants by a British bank.

In the dollar Eurobond market, prices lost ground initially but recovered to show small gains on the day, though the performance was patchy with investors continuing to be selective.

In an attempt to fuel demand for capped FRNs, Bank of America International and Merrill Lynch, Capital Markets combined the structure with the mismatch formula which is showing modest revival after falling from a peak in 1982. Italy's \$300m 12-year issue is at a quarter point above the London interbank bid rate (Libid) for six-month deposits.

The maximum coupon is 12½ per cent, and under the mismatch formula, the interest rate is set every month but paid every six months, enabling buyers of the bonds to fund their holdings with cheap short-term money.

The mood of yesterday's market was such that the combination of two well-worn complexities tended to limit rather than augment demand. S. G. Warburg, leading a \$100m capped FRN for NMB, took

the alternative route of setting a low seven-year maturity and a fairly generous margin of a quarter point above six-month London interbank offered rates (Libor). The maximum coupon is 12½ per cent. A shortage of Dutch paper in the market also argued for a relatively favourable response.

The other issue of this type was a \$100m, 12-year issue for Wells Fargo, the U.S. bank, at a quarter point above three-month Libor, led by Goldman Sachs International. The maximum coupon is 13 per cent, and the issue is subordinated. Its new twist is that the borrower may call it after five years at par.

Traders reasoned that capped FRNs, though meeting less than enthusiastic market reactions, could continue for the time being because they are swap-driven. Provided profitable swaps can be arranged with borrowers seeking the protection of the interest rate cap, such as U.S. savings and loan institutions, the method is still worthwhile.

With investors shying away from such complexities, a straightforward FRN from Fortune Federal Savings & Loan of Florida won a fair reception. Led by Credit Suisse First Boston with Salomon Brothers International, it is a \$100m seven-year issue at ½ point above the three-month Libor, collateralised by U.S. federal and other mortgage securities. The notes will be callable in two years time at par and will be registered.

Other issues in more unusual currencies sought nibbles in the market. Toronto Dominion Bank launched a NZ\$50m three-year issue with a 16½ per cent coupon at par, led by Goldman Sachs International.

Meanwhile a New Zealand borrower, an overseas vehicle of Development Finance Corporation, made an issue in Australian dollars. The A\$50m, five-year issue has a 13 per cent coupon and is priced at 100½ per cent, led by Orion Royal Bank with Security Pacific.

Both issues met a difficult market. More successful was an Ecu 50m three-year issue for Club Med, the French holiday centre concern, warmly received despite a poor Ecu market yesterday and was quoted well within its fees. It has a 9 per cent coupon and is priced at par. The issue was led by Banque Paribas and Banque Bruxelles Lambert and another French borrower is expected in the market today.

In Switzerland, the Inter-American Development Bank offered a two-tranche SwFr 500m issue split evenly between 10-year and 20-year bonds, led by Credit Suisse. The shorter maturity had an indicated yield of 5½ per cent, and the longer was said to be doing better with an indicated yield of 6½ per cent.

Southmark Corporation, a U.S. real estate concern, is expected in the market next month with an issue of up to SwFr 120m.

There was limited selling in the D-Mark Euro bond market, with high quality domestic issues attracting greater interest. There were no new issues, but today the Bundesbank will issue the expected totals of new issues for July.

As competition continued for the first issue in Euro-yen floating-rate notes, Banque Française de Commerce Extérieur issued a ¥40bn, 10-year Samurai bond with a 6.7 per cent coupon and 99.35 per cent pricing, led by Nomura Securities.

CIR to offer convertible bond issue

By Alan Friedman in Milan

CIR, the Turin-based financial and industrial holding company controlled by Sig Carlo de Benedetti, the chairman of Olivetti, is to launch a Eurobond issue convertible into shares of the company listed on the Milan bourse. The issue will be for up to Ecu 80m (\$57.6m), and will represent the first-ever Ecu Eurobond which is convertible into Italian domestic shares.

The CIR issue, to be offered in September and lead-managed by Credit Suisse First Boston, Morgan Stanley, Deutsche Bank and Eurocibank (the Milan invest-

BMF Bank bond average			
June 26	June 26	June 26	June 26
103.025	103.025	103.025	103.025
High	1985	Low	
103.095		99.840	

ment bank which is 20 per cent owned by Sig de Benedetti, follows last month's decision by Pirelli to launch Eurobond issues convertible into Italian shares. In addition, Montedison, the Milan-based chemicals group, is also offering investors part of a bond convertible into its shares.

The newly emerging trend, whereby Italian private-sector companies are able to sell Eurobonds convertible into Milan-quoted shares, reflects in part the improving credit rating for Italy in general and also the spectacular performance of the Milan bourse in recent months.

International bond service, Page 17

All these Bonds have been sold. This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

NEW ISSUE

June 12, 1985

BACOB FINANCE N.V.

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ASLK-CGER Bank Bank Brussel Lambert N.V.
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Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A. Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations
Caisse d'Epargne de l'Etat du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg (Banque de l'Etat)
Die Erste österreichische Spar-Casse-Bank Generale Bank
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Tokai International Ltd. Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES and FINANCE

740 JOBS GO AS WORKLOAD TAILS OFF

Technip forced to make new cuts

BY DAVID HOUSEGO IN PARIS

TECHNIP, France's leading engineering and industrial processing contractor which came close to bankruptcy last year, is further slimming back its workforce by a quarter in an effort to get back on its feet.

M. Pierre-Marie Valentin, the new president of the group, said that the further cut of 740 in the group's labour force was based on a sharp tailing-off of the group's workload from October of this year and on reasonably optimistic assumptions of new orders that could be won. But M. Valentin, who was giving the first details of the group's recovery plans, said that its future could only be assured within the context of a rationalisation of the French contracting sector to prevent wasteful competition.

He also disclosed yesterday that Technip had run up FF 1,420m of consolidated losses last year. Of this FF 400m was due to net losses on Technip contracts, FF 155m to financial charges and FF 195m to overhead expenses.

M. Valentin confirmed that the company would like an industrial group to take a majority stake in Technip to complement its design and contracting arms. Among groups being mentioned as potentially interested are the French construction and engineering concerns Spie-Batignolles, Bouygues, and Dumez. M. Valentin did not exclude a foreign company taking a stake.

Technip's existing shareholders, which include Elf-Aquitaine, the state-owned oil group - the banks

and the state have pumped FF 2bn (\$212m) into the company to wipe out losses and rebuild its capital. When compared with the group's current 2,875 workforce, this makes it one of the most costly rescue packages in France in recent years. The Government believed, however, that, after the collapse of Creusot-Loire, it was vital to bail out Technip to maintain the credibility of France's name in export markets for capital goods.

In addition Creusot-Loire Enterprises, the engineering subsidiary Technip purchased from Creusot-Loire, made losses on contracts of a further FF 420m, while the group's Canadian and Spanish subsidiaries were also in deficit.

French banks have waived debts of FF 420m and the group has been

re-established with a new capital base of FF 300m.

M. Valentin said in addition to Technip's traditional activities as a plant manufacturer for the chemical and refining industry it was seeking to break into new markets.

These included automation and robotics, the food industry and management consultancy in project coordination. He warned, however, that the company was operating in an international environment of overcapacity and where the Japanese above all were ready to slash prices.

Among major contracts Technip is negotiating are a methanol plant in Argentina, a gas treatment and a petrochemical plant in the Soviet Union, and a float-glass plant jointly with St-Gobain in Egypt.

Oriflame acquires Swedish jeweller

By Jeffrey Brown in London

ORIFLAME, the direct selling cosmetic group which has London listing, is paying £14.8m (\$18.7m) for control of Guldlyd, the largest jewellery retail chain in Sweden. Guldlyd, which runs 101 shops mostly in Sweden, has sales of around £25m a year. For 1984 its profits were £1.8m, down sharply from the £3.5m made before tax for 1983.

The deal represents a major addition to Oriflame's existing jewellery interests. These centre on the mail order company Lagoda, which for 1984 achieved sales of £5.4m. Guldlyd's profits for last year were hit by a combination of poor trading and the absence of the gold stock profits taken in for 1983. There were also shop start-up costs.

Oriflame, which is registered in Luxembourg but controlled from management headquarters in Belgium, is confident it can quickly get Guldlyd's earnings moving upwards once again.

It bases its confidence on a new management team for Guldlyd plus trading rationale. Guldlyd operates at the lower quality end of the jewellery business whereas Lagoda can provide a much needed move into higher-priced, higher-margin lines.

The acquisition transforms Oriflame's sales base. For 1985 turnover is likely to split evenly between cosmetics and jewellery. Prior to the deal, Lagoda accounted for only a fifth of group turnover.

Guldlyd brings with it a strong balance sheet which includes cash of around £5m.

UK computer group in £5m U.S. deal

By Jason Crisp in London

APPLIED Computer Techniques, the fast-growing UK personal computer group, has signed a deal worth nearly £5m (\$5.35m) with Microsoft, a leading U.S. software company.

The agreement will give ACT worldwide rights to all Microsoft products. The deal also means that Microsoft products will become available for ACT computers more quickly. Previously they have not been available until six months to a year after they have been released for rival machines made by IBM and Apple.

ACT hopes this will improve its credibility in the U.S. market, where it has been having a difficult time, as well as increasing the number of programs available for the UK and other European markets. Microsoft, which also has very close links with IBM and Apple, developed the MS-DOS operating system which is effectively the industry standard for 16-bit business personal computers and is used by ACT.

ACT has been developing increasingly close links with the U.S. company. Last autumn Microsoft launched its network software in the UK with ACT, which was able to offer the product before IBM. It enables personal computer users to link them in a network which means they can readily share expensive peripheral equipment such as printers and mass-memory storage devices.

One result of this latest deal will be that ACT will offer Microsoft's Windows software on its top range computers. Windows is expected greatly to increase the number of applications programs which can be run on any computer.

Accounting at US bank under investigation

By William Hall in New York

THE U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has launched an investigation into some of the accounting practices of Texas Commerce Bank, which has been hit by problems in U.S. energy lending.

Texas Commerce Bancshares, the parent of Texas Commerce Bank, disclosed that the investigation was taking place in a filing with the SEC. The commission is examining whether alleged "window dressing" by the group's main subsidiary materially affected its financial statements between 1981 and 1984.

The SEC is also reviewing Texas Commerce's loan loss policy and procedures for determining its allowance for possible credit losses. Earlier this year the bank announced its first profits setback after a 10-year record of unbroken earnings growth.

FT INTERNATIONAL BOND SERVICE

The list shows the 200 latest international bond issues for which an adequate secondary market exists. The following are closing prices for June 26.

U.S. DOLLAR	Issued	Bid	Offer	Change	Yield
STRANIGHTS					
Amsterd. 10% 90	100	100 1/2	100 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Amsterd. 12 1/2% 91	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Bank of Tokyo 10% 91	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
BP Capital 10% 94	100	101 1/2	101 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
BP Capital 11 1/2% 92	100	101 1/2	101 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Canada Nat. 10% 91	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Canada 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Canada 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
CBS Inc. 11 1/2% 92	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Cheniere U.S.A. 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Colgate 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Coca Cola 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Compt. & Cheque 10% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Denmark 10% 91	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Denmark 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Denmark 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Denmark 13 1/2% 88	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
EEC 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
E.L.B. 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
E.L.B. 13 1/2% 88	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Export Dev. Corp 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Ford Motor 10% 91	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Ford Motor 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Ford Motor 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Gen. Elec. 10% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
IBM Corp 10% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
IBM Corp 11 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Japan Air Lines 10% 94	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Kalunga 10% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Kellogg 10% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Kellogg 11 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Kellogg 12 1/2% 88	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 10% 90	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 11 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 12 1/2% 88	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 13 1/2% 87	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 14 1/2% 86	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 15 1/2% 85	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 16 1/2% 84	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 17 1/2% 83	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 18 1/2% 82	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 19 1/2% 81	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 20 1/2% 80	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 21 1/2% 79	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 22 1/2% 78	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 23 1/2% 77	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 24 1/2% 76	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 25 1/2% 75	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 26 1/2% 74	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 27 1/2% 73	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 28 1/2% 72	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 29 1/2% 71	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 30 1/2% 70	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 31 1/2% 69	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 32 1/2% 68	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 33 1/2% 67	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 34 1/2% 66	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 35 1/2% 65	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 36 1/2% 64	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 37 1/2% 63	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 38 1/2% 62	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 39 1/2% 61	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 40 1/2% 60	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 41 1/2% 59	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 42 1/2% 58	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 43 1/2% 57	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 44 1/2% 56	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 45 1/2% 55	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 46 1/2% 54	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 47 1/2% 53	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 48 1/2% 52	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 49 1/2% 51	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25
Levy 50 1/2% 50	100	102 1/2	102 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25

DEUTSCHE MARK						Average price change On day - 0 1/8 to 0 week - 0 1/8					
STRANIGHTS											
Issued	Bid	Offer	Change	Yield		Issued	Bid	Offer	Change	Yield	
Amsterd. 10% 90	100	100 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Amsterd. 10% 90	100	100 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Amsterd. 12 1/2% 91	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Amsterd. 12 1/2% 91	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Bank of Tokyo 10% 91	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Bank of Tokyo 10% 91	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
BP Capital 10% 94	100	101 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		BP Capital 10% 94	100	101 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
BP Capital 11 1/2% 92	100	101 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		BP Capital 11 1/2% 92	100	101 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Canada Nat. 10% 91	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Canada Nat. 10% 91	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Canada 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Canada 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Canada 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Canada 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
CBS Inc. 11 1/2% 92	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		CBS Inc. 11 1/2% 92	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Cheniere U.S.A. 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Cheniere U.S.A. 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Colgate 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Colgate 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Compt. & Cheque 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Compt. & Cheque 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Denmark 10% 91	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Denmark 10% 91	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Denmark 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Denmark 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Denmark 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Denmark 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Denmark 13 1/2% 88	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Denmark 13 1/2% 88	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
EEC 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		EEC 11 1/2% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
E.L.B. 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		E.L.B. 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
E.L.B. 13 1/2% 88	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		E.L.B. 13 1/2% 88	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Export Dev. Corp 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Export Dev. Corp 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
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Ford Motor 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Ford Motor 12 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Gen. Elec. 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Gen. Elec. 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
IBM Corp 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		IBM Corp 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
IBM Corp 11 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		IBM Corp 11 1/2% 89	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Japan Air Lines 10% 94	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Japan Air Lines 10% 94	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Kalunga 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Kalunga 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Kellogg 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Kellogg 10% 90	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
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Levy 26 1/2% 74	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Levy 26 1/2% 74	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
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Levy 29 1/2% 71	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Levy 29 1/2% 71	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
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Levy 31 1/2% 69	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Levy 31 1/2% 69	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
Levy 32 1/2% 68	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25		Levy 32 1/2% 68	100	102 1/2	+0 1/4	10.25	
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UK COMPANY NEWS

Break even point expected at Mercury 'within two years'

Exchange gains boost Cable & Wireless

BY JASON CRISP

Cable and Wireless reported a 29 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £245m against £190m. This figure included a £20m boost from exchange rates.

The results were slightly higher than expected, but did little to help the depressed electricals sector. After several sharp fluctuations C & W's shares closed at 500p down 50p on the day. Most of C & W's business is in overseas telecommunications which has not suffered from the problems which have beset so many of the world's electronics companies.

The figures show a sharp increase in profits in the Far East and South Pacific reflecting a strong performance from the Hong Kong Telephone Company and the rapid growth in telecommunications between Hong Kong and China.

Turnover for the group rose 28 per cent from £873m to £922m for the year ending March 31 1985. Revenues from the Far East and South Pacific rose to £451m representing 52 per cent of the total compared with £334m

last year, a fraction under 50 per cent.

The main losses for C & W came from its new businesses in the UK—Mercury, the telephone network to rival BT, and Easylink, an electronic mail service. UK turnover was £11m which reflects the very heavy investment in the Mercury network and the fact that it has only just started connecting customers.

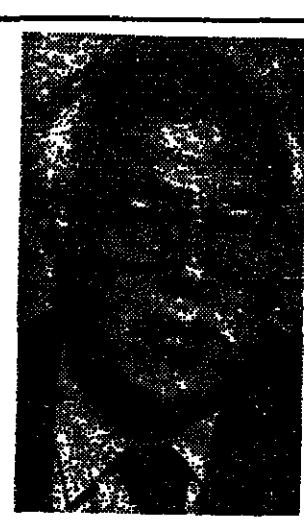
Capital investment in Mercury to date has been £38m—which includes the costs of buying out C & W's former partners BP and Barclays Merchant Bank. C & W said yesterday that the total initial investment in Mercury would be £100m. Mr Ernest Potter, finance director, said he expected Mercury would break even within two years. This could happen sooner if Mercury won a favourable judgment from the Office of Telecommunications on the rules for interconnection with BT's network.

Sir Eric Sharp, chairman of C & W, said he expected Mercury would become a "significant contributor to group results" within

five years with a turnover of hundreds of millions of pounds. C & W reported a fall in profits and turnover under the category of Europe and Projects. The main reason for the decline was because of lower earnings from a large project in Saudi Arabia. This division also included C & W (UK Services) and Eutelsat, which have recently been sold. The loss sustained in the disposal of these companies appears as an extraordinary item of £2m.

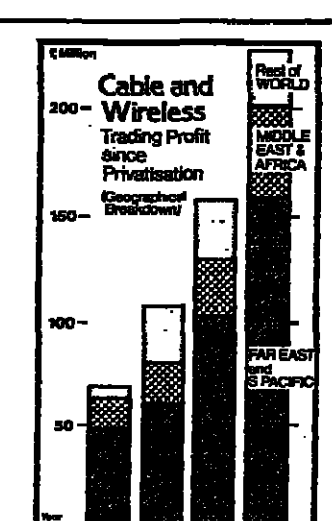
Capital investment of £262m is expected to stay at about the same level this year according to Sir Eric Sharp. However expenditure in the Far East (£106m last year) and in Mercury (£88m) is expected to increase.

Sir Eric said yesterday that there were no plans for a rights issue in the near future. In the longer term C & W will have to look for ways of financing P-TAT, the two trans-Atlantic optical fibre cables which it is planning to build in a joint venture with Tel-Optic, a U.S. The two cables are expected to cost up to \$600m. The company may sell a share in the



Sir Eric Sharp, chairman of Cable and Wireless.

cables to a company which wanted to buy substantial capacity. The directors have recommended a final dividend of 4.9p making the total dividend for the year of 7.9p.



See Lex

Rotork diversifies with £18m purchase

By Charles Batchelor

Rotork, a leading British manufacturer of valve actuators, is paying up to £17.5m for Protech Instruments & Systems, a privately owned maker of instruments used in process control.

This represents Rotork's first significant attempt to diversify out of valve actuators, which presently contribute 80 per cent of the company's business. Actuators are devices which respond to pneumatic or electric signals to open valves in pipelines, gas and water distribution systems.

Protech had net assets of £1.04m at November 29, 1984 and made a profit, before directors' emoluments and tax, of £1.43m on turnover of £2.5m in that year. This compared with profit of £1.33m on turnover of £2.8m the year before.

Protech, a Luton based company, was set up in 1972, and now employs 80 people making a range of analogue and digital circuit modules. It is jointly owned by the remaining two of its three joint founders, Dr Brian Cook, 41, and Mr Arthur Mead, 49.

Dr Cook said: "We knew we had to do something about the ownership of the company. Neither of us wished the idea of going for a full quote, so we decided to become part of a larger company. There have always been plenty of suitors and we have received four serious offers in the past year."

Rotork holds a significant share of the instrumentation market, which is both specialised and mature. The potential for rapid growth is limited, Rotork said.

Dr Cook decided on instrumentation as an area in which to make acquisitions because of the high degree of overlap with its current activities. Many of the two companies' customers are the same in the steel, pharmaceutical and power industries.

Rotork will make an initial payment of £8.6m to be funded by the issue of a total of 7.4m new shares. Of these 2.5m will be retained by Dr Cook and Mr Mead while 4.9m were placed yesterday with institutions at 114p per share, a total of £5.6m.

The purchase price is based on a six-monthly multiple of annual net pre-tax earnings of Protech. The initial payment of £8.6m will be adjusted in line with Protech's performance in the 12 months ending December 1985.

Further deferred payments will be payable depending on the Protech's profits up to December 1990 with a maximum of £17.5m. Any further payments would be made in cash, though the vendors have an option to take of these payments in the form of Rotork shares, based on an issue price of 120p per share. Rotork's shares were unchanged at 120p yesterday.

Wary electronics sector unimpressed by Ferranti's £46m

THERE WAS progress in all of Ferranti's main trading operations in 1984-85, and the pre-tax outcome showed a rise of nearly 19 per cent to reach a record £46m.

This, compared with £38.8m last time, was at the lower end of market expectations, and with an electronics sector in no mood to accept any more bad news after Rascal and Plessey, the shares dropped 12p to 104p on the announcement. They later recovered to close at 112p.

Turnover for the period to March 31, 1985, was up 26 per cent to £567.9m (£451.7m) and produced operating profits 25 per cent ahead at £80.2m against £64m. Margins were virtually unchanged at just under 9 per cent.

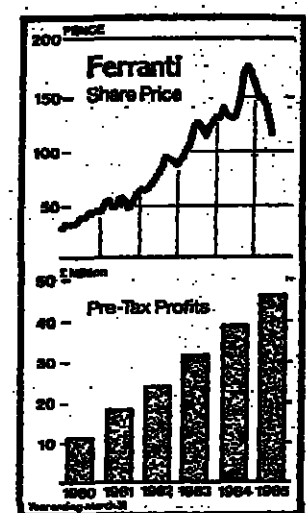
The taxable result suffered from a substantial increase in interest costs, up from £1.2m to £4.2m, less investment income. This reflected a cash outflow of £31m in the year.

Capital expenditure on new plant, facilities and acquisitions increased by £20m to £31m. Year end borrowings at £25.6m compared with deposits of £5.2m last time—represent 13 per cent of assets employed.

In his review of operations, Basile de Ferranti, group chairman, says that electronics produced excellent results as a record level of orders for the closure of the year, high efficiency, production facilities brought on stream in 1984. Although the long term outlook for the semiconductor industry remains good, demand in the short term is uncertain, he adds.

Among other activities Venus Scientific and Ferranti (UK) are not currently in profit. After a period of high development and initial marketing costs both are now introducing new technically advanced products which will be particularly markets—power supplies and telecommunications—respectively.

The tax charge for the year was up from £10m to £15.6m, with the effective rate increased from 26 to 34 per cent. The basic rate of corporation tax in the UK was reduced from 50 to 45 per cent but the effect of this was more than offset by the



ending of stock relief, the absence of credit for ACT previously written off, and changes in the rates of capital allowances.

Net profits came out at £30.4m against £26.8m. Minorities accounted for slightly less at £0.4m against £0.6m, with attributable profits shown at £29.7m against £25.6m.

The directors are recommending a final dividend of 1.04p, up from an equivalent 0.89p, for a total of 1.06p. This is an increase of 0.24p over last year, and will account for £7.7m (£6.8m). Earnings per share are shown at 7.17p against 6.89p.

There was an extraordinary loss of £0.7m (£3.9m) representing costs on the closure of the container handling equipment business less tax relief and the loss on the sale of a business. An extraordinary charge of £3.2m last time was a provision for deferred tax.

Highlights from the balance sheet show fixed assets of £104.5m compared with £83.3m, with total assets for 1985 standing at £195.1m against £141.9m. Share capital is virtually unchanged at £45.5m (£45.2m) and reserves are up from £100.7m to £119.1m.

See Lex

Lander wins control of Windsor

By Andrew Arends

Lander Investments, a private insurance company, along with its allies yesterday won a bitter battle for boardroom control of Windsor Securities, the insurance broker which under its previous name of Windsor & Co. had been deeply involved in the Sasse affair at Lloyd's.

At an EGM in London yesterday, Mr John Carr, Lander's chairman, was elected to the Windsor board alongside Company Director Mr David Owen, and Mr Brian Eve, giving them a majority on the board. Mr Carr said that it was his intention that the two groups should be amalgamated.

Mr Maurice Fullerton, the present chairman, and Mr Graham Fairweather, the other remaining director, said yesterday that they were now considering their positions although it is widely expected they will resign.

Mr Fullerton, who opposed the move, launched a vehement attack on Lander at the meeting. He said it had been one of the most distasteful manoeuvres the City had seen for many years. "These people have no track record in running a public company and their record at private companies is not good."

However, Mr Carr won the backing of 74 shareholders representing roughly 68 per cent of Windsor's shares, against support for the old board of 284 shareholders with a third of the shares.

Mr Carr said last night that the newly appointed board intended to get involved with the management of the company for the purpose of building it up into a substantial Lloyd's broking group.

Last night Windsor's shares closed at 53p, down 2p.

BPB slips £1m as second half disappoints

WITH DISAPPOINTING demand for building materials in the UK during the second half, BPB Industries, Slough-based plasterboard manufacturer, has announced a drop in pre-tax profits from £79.7m to £78.6m for the year to March 31 1985. A lower £38.2m was earned in the second half, against £43m.

With turnover for the year ahead by £36.2m to £364.3m, operating profits fell from £77m to £76.1m for the year. The results the directors are proposing a 7.7p (7p) dividend total with a higher 4.6p (4.2p) final. Stated net earnings per 50p share are 2.9p lower at 25.1p.

The directors blame the effect of high interest rates on the private house building sector, the continued rundown of local authority construction expenditure, and the severe winter for the lack of demand in the second half.

They say that although the

short-term outlook for gypsum-based products in the UK is for volumes to remain static, this should be offset by the benefit of the group's new plants at East Leake, and other cost-saving investments.

In Canada the buoyant market is expected to continue, and in France trading conditions are improving, they say, with better results expected in the current year. Overall, prospects for 1985-86 are for group profit to be well maintained.

For the 1984-85 year the paper and packaging division in the UK achieved a satisfactory increase in turnover although substantial increases in the cost of raw materials and fuel resulted in slightly lower profits.

In Canada, Westco Industries continued its improvement in performance and achieved its most profitable year to date. In France and Ireland results suffered from low levels of construction and strong price competition.

They add that the related companies had a good year and the group's share of their combined profits increased.

Related companies added a higher £7.1m (£5.8m), and the pre-tax figure was struck after lower interest payments of £2.5m (£3.1m).

The tax charge of £30.5m (£26m) was significantly higher, mainly due to lower capital spending and reduced capital allowances in the UK.

comment

A very poor last quarter for the UK building industry put paid to any hopes that BPB Industries might surpass last year's profits level. The costs of getting the two new production lines up and running at East Leake plus some redundancies also shaved up to 25m of the year's profit. However, in the East Leake plant (the world's second largest plaster board complex with an output of 60m sq metres a year—enough for half the

UK's needs) the group now has a highly cost effective operation which should help protect margins.

The wireline logging system developed by subsidiary BPB Instruments continues to make progress in terms of penetrating markets—especially in North America—but contributions to the group have been minimal to date.

Uncertainty over how far oil prices will drop is holding back well drilling programmes and therefore the opportunities of this product to really take off. BPB's share price has been sliding for most of the last year and is now back at its mid-1982 level of 212p down 18p. For this year the market is looking for an 82m pre-tax which has the shares trading on a prospective multiple of almost 8 (38 per cent tax charge). Little more can be expected until early next year, although the dividend increase, the yield is up to 5.2 per cent, might persuade some that a buying opportunity exists at these price levels.

Consumer credit boosts FNFC

PROFITS, both before and after tax, of First National Finance Corporation rose from £7.7m to £9.9m the six months to April 30 1985.

Payment of a dividend for the year will be considered when the annual results are available—the last payment was in 1974.

Group turnover for the half-year declined from £34.86m to £13.19m, excluding banking business, but the fall reflected a reduction of the lending and property division's involvement in the property sector.

The lending and property division profit contribution fell from £3.58m to £2.73m but the consumer credit sector recorded an improvement of £2.47m at £3.69m—expenditure of this sector's holding company, First National Securities (Holdings), accounted for £2.3m (£1.91m).

The directors say the consumer credit division's progress reflected the buoyancy of that part of the market in which it is involved. During the six months substantial additional funding was made available.

The remaining support group loan of £32m to First National Securities (Holdings) has now been repaid. This was repaid as a result of refinancing by way of a syndicated loan.

comment

First National Finance's recovery from its low point in 1977, when it had a deficit of £7m on shareholders' funds, has continued in the first half with a performance well in line with forecasts. The consumer credit side has not been without its difficulties—the coal strike, unemployment and high interest

rates have held it back from faster growth and a lot of credit is going into plastic cards. However, consumer credit is generally buoyant and First National's business is predominantly high quality lending such as second mortgage and home improvement lending. The property division's profits have fallen in line with the chairman's year-end statement that problems arising from the property slump of 1973-75 remained to be cleared. Given that interest rates seem more likely to fall than to rise and further improvements in the group's bad debt experience, the end-of-year result looks likely to be in line with forecasts of £20m. With a notional 35 per cent tax charge and the shares down 1p at 102, this produces a prospective p/e of 10. A final dividend appears likely.

AG Barr soars to £1.54m at six months

Tight control of operating costs has enabled A. G. Barr, the Glasgow-based soft drinks maker, to push its first half pre-tax profit up from £555,000 to £1.54m. The interim dividend, however, is held at 1.75p for the six months to April 27 1985.

Mr Robin Barr, chairman and managing director, says the 3.3 per cent advance in turnover (from £15.25m to £15.79m) reflects a continuation of last year's competitive pricing conditions. Although it is too early to forecast the overall pattern for the important summer period, Mr Barr tells shareholders that trading since the end of April has been disappointing compared with last year when better-than-average weather was experienced in May and June.

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

OWENS-CORNING FIBERGLAS FINANCE N.V.

(now Owens-Corning Fibreglass Corporation)

9% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures due August 1, 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of August 1, 1971, as supplemented, providing for the above Debentures, \$1,930,000 principal amount of said Debentures have been selected for redemption on August 1, 1985, through operation of the Sinking Fund, at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to said date, each in the denomination of \$1,000 bearing serial numbers with the prefix letter "M" as follows:

Outstanding Debentures with serial numbers ending in any of the following two digits:

Also Outstanding Debentures with the following serial numbers:

1	505	1465	2385	3385	4085	5065	7125	12355	14955	15955	17355	19455	19155	19655
105	965	1285	2685	3485	4185	5085	5565	13465	15065	15765	16165	17465	18865	18965
265	1195	2265	3165	3765	4665	5265	10765	14265	15565	15965	17265	18365	19065	19765

On August 1, 1985, the Debentures designated above will become due and payable in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts. Said Debentures will be paid, upon presentation and surrender thereof with all coupons appertaining thereto maturing after the redemption date, at the option of the holder either (a) at the corporate trust office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 30 West Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10015 or (b) subject to any laws or regulations applicable thereto in the country of any of the following offices, at the main offices of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Brussels, Frankfurt am Main, London, Paris, Zurich or the main offices of Bank Mees & Hope NV in Amsterdam, Kreditbank S.A. Luxembourggoose in Luxembourg and Credito Romagnolo S.p.A. in Milan. Payments at the offices referred to in (b) above will be made by check drawn on a bank in New York City or by a transfer to a dollar account maintained by the payee with a bank in New York City.

Coupons due August 1, 1985, should be detached and collected in the usual manner. On and after August 1, 1985, interest shall cease to accrue on the Debentures herein designated for redemption.

OWENS-CORNING FIBERGLAS CORPORATION

Dated: June 27, 1985

NOTICE

The following Debentures previously called for redemption have not as yet been presented for payment:

DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH													
M 382	874	885	907	108	1124	1177	5497	6515	12588	14678			
672	877	903	914	1089	1265	3176	5454	6517	12626	13732			
673	858	904	922	1139	3176	5452	6514	12586	14677	15741			

Under the Interest and Dividend Tax Compliance Act of 1983, we may be required to withhold 20% of any gross payments made within the United States to certain holders who fail to provide us with, and certify under penalties of perjury, a correct taxpayer identifying number (employer identification number or social security number, as appropriate) or an exemption certificate on or before the date the securities are presented for payment. Those holders who are required to provide their correct taxpayer identification number on Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 and who fail to do so may also be subject to a penalty of \$50. Please therefore provide the appropriate certification when presenting your securities for payment.

All of the securities have been sold. This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

Putnam Emerging Information Sciences Trust S.A.

An investment company seeking long-term capital growth by investing in a diversified portfolio of companies in the information sciences industry with special emphasis on small or emerging companies.

U.S. \$24,132,042

Aggregate Proceeds to the Trust from 2,540,215 shares and 508,043 warrants Placed Institutionally with non-U.S. Investors

de Zoete & Bevan

KEMPEN & Co. NV

Investment Manager
The Putnam Advisory Company, Inc.
One Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109
Offices located in

BOSTON • LONDON • TOKYO

BRITISH-BORNEO PETROLEUM SYNDICATE P.L.C.

Statement of the Chairman, Mr. Campbell Nelson, delivered at the 71st Annual General Meeting of the Company held in London on 26th June 1985.

Our profits for the year to 31st March 1985 were at record levels. Pre-tax profit was £1,787,000 compared with £1,424,000 for the previous year. Net profit after taxation was £1,155,000 compared with £770,000 for the previous year. We paid an interim dividend of 21st December 1984 of £225,000 and recommend a final dividend of £562,500. These dividends totalling £787,500 represent a 68.2% distribution of net earnings leaving unappropriated earnings for the year of £268,000 which added to the unappropriated profits brought forward give us total unappropriated profits of £2,333,000 at the end of the year. The dividends in respect of last year amount to 17 1/2p per stock unit on the paid up issued capital of 4,500,000 stock units of 10p each compared with dividends for the previous year of 15p per stock unit.

The market value of our listed investments at 31st March 1985 was £19,835,000 the unrealised appreciation over their Balance Sheet value (being cost or market value whichever is the lower) for each investment) being £16,440,000 compared with £16,321,000 at the end of the previous year.

The make up of our listed investments at 31st March last at their market values was 85% oil companies, 4% gold mining and mining finance companies, 9% industrial and 3% preference shares. Our principal holdings in oil companies are 907,228 ordinary shares of British Petroleum, 1,342,010 ordinary shares of Shell Transport and Trading and 1,100,000 ordinary shares of Ultramar.

Our oil and gas producing interests gave us a profit of £58,000 after providing for amortisation. We continue our search for opportunities to participate in other producing properties.

Our main investment continues however to be in securities, mainly oil, quoted on the London Stock Exchange and we expect these to serve the company well in the current year.

Following this Annual General Meeting I shall be retiring as Chairman and as a director. I have been an executive director since 1948 and was appointed Chairman in 1977. They have been prosperous and happy years. An important factor has been and is the good relationship with our principal shareholder Consolidated Gold Fields. I thank their representatives on the board of your company who are Messrs Beckett, Brooks and Barton for the valuable services they have rendered. Sir Douglas Morphet was appointed a director last November and we have greatly benefited from his valuable services. I am pleased to tell you that he will succeed me as Chairman and I wish him every success.

Copies of the Statement and the 1985 Report and Accounts are available from the Registrars, Lloyds Bank Plc, Registrars' Department, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA.

Public Works Loan Board rates

Effective June 26

Quota loans repaid		Non-quota loans A* repaid	
Years	by EIP†	by EIP†	by EIP†
1	111	111	111
Over 1, up to 2	111	111	111
Over 2, up to 3	111	111	111
Over 3, up to 4	111	111	111
Over 4, up to 5	111	111	111
Over 5, up to 6	111	111	111
Over 6, up to 7	111	111	111
Over 7, up to 8	111	111	111
Over 8, up to 9	111	111	111
Over 9, up to 10	111	111	111
Over 10, up to 15	111	111	111
Over 15, up to 25	111	111	111
Over 25	101	101	111

UK COMPANY NEWS

Eric Short on the £94m acquisition of Lloyd's Life

The logic behind Royal's strategy

LMI plc

Record Results

	1985 £'000	1984 £'000
Sales	82,079	71,170
Profit before Tax	7,725	5,018
Earnings per share	17.1p	11.0p
Ordinary Dividend	9.5p	8p

- Main Activities:**
- Home Improvement
 - Consumer Products, Specialised Engineering Products & Services, Fastener Distribution & Specialised Manufacture
 - Operations based in U.K. & U.S.A.
- A new record in sales and profits**
- Increased dividend
 - Strong financial position with good resources
 - Board will continue to plan Group expansion with confidence

C.M. Beddow, Chairman

Head Office:
235 Old Marylebone Road,
London NW1 5QT.

London & Midlands Industrial
PLC

Lloyd's Life Assurance, the unit-linked life company put up for sale last February by Lloyd's of London, is being acquired by Royal Insurance, one of Britain's largest composite insurance groups, for a cash payment of £94m.

News that Royal was the front-runner in the auction for Lloyd's Life only emerged over the past few days and came as something of a surprise to the market.

In general UK insurance groups have made it clear that they are not interested in the fancy prices that have been asked in recent years when a life company comes up for sale and invariably the life company has been bought by an overseas group.

However, Royal has taken the view that Lloyd's Life was worth acquiring and was worth paying what at first sight looks like a fancy price.

The latest report and accounts of Lloyd's Life for the year ending September 30, 1984, valued the company at £46m. To understand the reasoning behind this decision one first has to go back five years.

At that time, Royal announced that as part of its overall corporate strategy, it intended to greatly expand its long-term life and pensions operation worldwide, with particular emphasis on its UK business.

Since then it has made great efforts to expand its UK life business, particularly in the unit-linked sector. It set up a unit trust operation, introduced

several unit-linked life and pension contracts and launched a direct sales force as a further independent intermediary agency network.

But it found, as other insurance groups have also found, that there is a limit to the rate of such organic growth. Its unit-linked business still only amounted to £200m out of its total UK life funds of £2.3bn. This is small when measured alongside the unit-linked life giants like Hambro Life, with funds in excess of £3bn, and Abbey Life, with funds exceeding £2bn.

So Royal has been looking for suitable acquisitions to complement its organic expansion and although such opportunities are rare, it found that Lloyd's Life met its requirements.

Lloyd's Life was established in 1871 to enable members of Lloyd's to participate in the long-term insurance market — a market from which they cannot operate directly.

After certain problems in its early days, Lloyd's Life has developed into an efficient unit-linked life company, with a reputation for product innovation and marketing, and has an impressive growth rate for new business. In particular, it has become a leader in the offshore life market through its Isle of Man subsidiary.

All this expansion has been financed by internally generated profits without recourse to its shareholders — members of Lloyd's syndicates. But it has



Mr. Alan Horsford, Chief executive of Royal Insurance

now reached the stage where fresh capital could be required for further expansion if it is to take its share in the developing financial services market. This was the overriding reason for the Committee of Lloyd's putting the company up for sale.

Royal can give Lloyd's Life the necessary capital backing, but then so could any other major group. Indeed, Royal is reputed to have been the only UK company on the final short list of six bidders, so it would appear that the UK insurance groups, in general, stuck to the view that Lloyd's was again being sold for

a fancy price. However, Royal's chief executive, Mr. Alan Horsford, and its group actuary and head of Royal Life, Mr. Hugo Johnson, insist that the price is a fair one.

Royal was given complete access to Lloyd's Life and its management and records as well as the independent actuarial valuation made by consulting actuaries Bacon and Woodrow. It was impressed by the management of Lloyd's Life under its chief executive Mr. John Woolhouse.

Royal intends to run Lloyd's Life as a separate company from the present business of Royal Life, though it will have to change the name of the company. The business of Lloyd's Life does complement that of Royal Life, but without integrating the two companies it is not easy to see how this will immediately benefit Royal.

However, Mr. Johnson feels that Royal Life and Lloyd's Life can both benefit immediately and in the near future by an interchange of ideas and planning future developments on a co-operation basis.

The rapid developments in the financial services field and the Government's proposals to privatise pension provision in the UK mean that conditions in the UK life assurance sector are changing rapidly. There are plenty of opportunities likely to arise for Royal and Lloyd's Life to jointly co-operate to get maximum benefit from these opportunities.

However, there are two major

areas where integration could be made in the near future. At present, Lloyd's Life has its own in-house investment management team and it makes use of other unit-trust groups in its linked contracts. This could be merged with Royal's investment management team.

Secondly, both companies have separate unit trust management groups, and this seems an area of duplication that could be integrated.

But in its mainstream business, the two companies are likely to run side by side, often in competition with each other for some years. Mr. Horsford stressed that he had no intention of breaking up the current management team at Lloyd's Life. Indeed, this was an important factor in costing the price paid.

However, the two companies are somewhat in opposition in one major area—that of commission and remuneration paid to agents. Lloyd's Life has led the opposition to any form of commission control while Royal is a supporter of the proposed Registry of Life Assurance Commissions.

However, Mr. Johnson does not see this difference in approach as posing any major problems. The Government's investor protection proposals have resulted in conditions on life assurance remuneration being in a state of flux.

Until conditions become clearer, Royal will do nothing to harmonise the approach to remuneration.

Drink in the latest news from Whitbread.

At Whitbread, we've just published our Annual Report and Accounts for the year to March 2nd, 1985.

We think you'll find it refreshing. Profits during 1984/1985 were up 15.8% to £110.1 m., from £94.7 m. (1983/1984: £1,185.7 m.). Consolidated turnover of £1,444.0 m. (1983/1984: £1,444.0 m.). Shareholders can look forward to a final dividend of 4.9p, making a total for the year of 6.95p; an 11.2% increase. So, what were the ingredients of this highly satisfying year?

BEER, BREWING & WHOLESALING

Beer, Brewing & Wholesaling increased its turnover by 9% to £510.5 m.; operating profits advanced to £70.5 m., an increase of 28%; 49% of total operating profit.

Closure of the Luton Brewery caused short-term supply problems, but immediate steps were taken to realign production to reflect market demand more accurately.

Although sales in the total UK beer market are fairly static, we remain strong in this business, with Whitbread Best Bitter achieving a 17.5% growth rate in the South of England and Trophy Bitter increasing its share of the market in the North. Strong support for local ales continued, particularly for our Flowers bitter range and Chesters.

More people are drinking lager in the UK these days, which now accounts for 44% of Whitbread's total beer sales, well above the industry average. Draught Heineken substantially increased sales; Stella Artois enjoyed a 25% growth and Kaltenberg Diat Pils a 35% increase in sales.

RETAILING

In this area expansion has been the keynote. Turnover was up 32% to £560.1 m., producing operating profits of £47.2 m.: 33% of total operating profit.

Our reorganisation of Whitbread Inns is now complete; plans to increase investment in both people and property will help to enhance profit potential.

Whitbread Retailing acquired a further 82 off-licences, bringing the total to just under 800, making us one of the largest off-licence chains in the UK. Over the next two years we'll be bringing them all under the Thresher name.

Beefeater Restaurants have shown significant growth. Henekey Steak Bars provided a satisfactory first full year contribution and Roast Inns now operate in 34 locations. Our joint venture in Belgium opened the first two Pizza Huts and the first Beefeater in Brussels. Pizza Hut is now the largest pizza restaurant chain in London. 'Whitbread Coaching Inns' is the new identity for our integrated hotel operations. Aureon Entertainments now manages 33 discotheques with excellent growth potential.

WINES AND SPIRITS

Wines and Spirits turnover increased by 19% to £524.1 m. Operating profits advanced to £26.3 m. (up 13%), accounting for 18% of the total operating profit.

Whitbread North America was established as a separate division, incorporating The Buckingham Corporation, Julius Wile, Fleischmann, Highland Distillers of California, and our 49% holding in All Brand Importers. These companies all had a good year, with increasing sales and good potential for the future. Whitbread wine companies performed well, under pressure from low margins.

Calver's overall volume was up 13%, with good progress in Canada and Japan. Langenbach performed well in West Germany and had a 35% increase in sales to the UK.

Stowells of Chelsea now handles over 29 million litres of wine a year across all its ranges, while increasing its share of the boxed wine market.

Long John International continued to perform well in the important West European markets with particularly satisfactory gains in France and Italy. A sustained drive in the Duty Free sector

yielded excellent results for Long John and Laphroaig malt whisky.

THE FUTURE

Our reorganisation has given us a great opportunity to increase our productivity and efficiency, and we will continue to trade profitably in the UK.

Overseas, we will be concentrating on consolidating our newly acquired American business.

And we're confident of another satisfying result in 1986.

We think you'll raise your glass to that.

For a copy of our latest Annual Report, please complete and post the coupon, or telephone the Whitbread Publications Department on 01-606 4455.

Please send me a copy of the 1985 Whitbread Annual Report and Accounts.

Name

Address

Postcode

Publications Department, WHITBREAD AND COMPANY PLC,
Brewery, Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SD

WHITBREAD

MINING NEWS

U.S. write-offs leave Hampton with £6m loss

SUBSTANTIAL provisions below the line—mainly connected with the joint ventures in Colorado, U.S.—have left Hampton Gold Mining Area with a loss of \$8m for the 1984-85 financial year. The comparable figure last time was a profit of \$2.72m.

Hampton was already depressed at the trading level, mainly because of the miners' strike, which severely affected the coal and Wulter divisions. Group pre-tax results were down from \$3.25m to \$2.37m.

Earlier this month Hampton told its partners in the ambitious U.S. venture, Centennial Gold Corporation and Marathon Gold Corporation, that it did not intend to provide the companies with additional funding "in the absence of a new injection of finance from other sources."

Hampton became the target participant in the venture through a refinancing arrangement last January. It then said that it was basically confident of the project, despite the drop in gold prices.

The directors now say that the value of the Hampton invest-

ment has been reassessed and full provision has been made. The extraordinary charge of \$7.6m substantially relates to a full provision amounting to \$8.9m against the cost of these investments. Smaller provisions have also been made against the Sooner Trend joint venture (\$400,000) and Nesquehoning Coal (\$352,000).

Despite the below-the-line losses, and earnings per share down from 10.66p to 6.07p, the company is to hold the dividend at 3.75p for the year with an unchanged final of 2.75p. This will account for £1.02m (same) to bring the total deficit transferred to reserves to £7.02m (profit £1.7m).

Group turnover for the period to March 31, 1985 fell from £13.4m to £12.16m, producing gross profits of £2.16m against £3.25m. Included in the pre-tax figure is a \$567,000 profit on the sale of fixed asset investments and a higher credit of £1.54m against £1.46m receivable interest and similar income. The tax charge for the period was \$545,000 (£335,000), and minority interests took £171,000 (nil).

BASE LENDING RATES

A.B.N. Bank	12 1/2%	Hill Samuel	12 1/2%
Allied Irish Bank	12 1/2%	C. Hoare	12 1/2%
American Express Bk.	12 1/2%	Hongkong & Shanghai	12 1/2%
Henry Ansbacher	12 1/2%	Johnson Matthey Bkrs.	12 1/2%
Amro Bank	12 1/2%	Knowles & Co. Ltd.	13%
Associates Cap. Corp.	13%	Lloyds Bank	12 1/2%
Banco de Bilbao	12 1/2%	Edward Manon & Co.	12 1/2%
Bank Hapoalim	12 1/2%	Meghraj & Sons Ltd.	12 1/2%
BCCI	12 1/2%	Midland Bank	12 1/2%
Bank of Ireland	12 1/2%	Morgan Grenfell	12 1/2%
Bank of Cyprus	12 1/2%	Mount-Credit Corp. Ltd.	12 1/2%
Bank of India	12 1/2%	National Bk. of Kuwait	12 1/2%
Bank of Scotland	12 1/2%	National Girobank	12 1/2%
Banque Belge Ltd.	12 1/2%	National Westminster	12 1/2%
Barclays Bank	12 1/2%	Northern Bank Ltd.	12 1/2%
Beneficial Trust Ltd.	13 1/2%	Norwich Gen. Trust	12 1/2%
Brit. Bank of Mid. East	12 1/2%	People's Trust	13 1/2%
Brown Shipley	12 1/2%	Provincial Trust Ltd.	12 1/2%
CL Bank Nederland	12 1/2%	R. Raphael & Sons	12 1/2%
Canada Permanent	12 1/2%	PK Finans Intl. (UK)	13%
Cayzer Ltd.	12 1/2%	P. S. Refson	12 1/2%
Cedar Holdings	13%	Roxburgh Guarantee	13%
Charterhouse Japhet	12 1/2%	Royal Bank of Scotland	12 1/2%
Choulatons	12 1/2%	Royal Trust Co. Canada	12 1/2%
Citibank NA	12 1/2%	J. Henry Schroder Wagg	12 1/2%
Citibank Savings	12 1/2%	Standard Chartered	12 1/2%
Clydesdale Bank	12 1/2%	TCEB	12 1/2%
C. E. Coates & Co. Ltd.	13%	Trustee Savings Bank	12 1/2%
Comm. Bk. N. East	13%	United Bank of Kuwait	12 1/2%
Consolidated Credits	12 1/2%	United Mizrahi Bank	12 1/2%
Co-operative Bank	12 1/2%	Westpac Banking Corp.	12 1/2%
The Cyprus Popular Bk.	12 1/2%	Whiteaway Laidlaw	13%
Dunbar & Co. Ltd.	12 1/2%	Williams & City's	12 1/2%
Duncan Lawrie	12 1/2%	Yorkshire Bank	12 1/2%
E. T. Trust	13%		
Exeter Trust Ltd.	13%		
First Nat. Fin. Corp.	13 1/2%		
First Nat. Secs. Ltd.	13 1/2%		
Robert Fleming & Co.	12 1/2%		
Robert Fraser & Puns.	12 1/2%		
Grindlays Bank	12 1/2%		
Guinness Mahon	12 1/2%		
Hambros Bank	12 1/2%		
Heritable & Gen. Trust	12 1/2%		

Simpson

01-734 2002

SALE STARTS TODAY
9.00am-7.00pm

MEN

- DAKS business suits.....£445. 599
- DAKS summer jackets.....£76. 559
- Allen Solly shirts.....£17.50. \$41.50

WOMEN

- DAKS jackets.....£445. 599
- DAKS cotton knitwear.....£56. 535
- Emanuel silk dresses—HALF PRICE.....£365. 575

SALE

OPEN DAILY 9.00AM-5.30PM THURSDAYS UNTIL 7PM

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION
TO THE HOLDERS OFThe Long-Term Credit Bank
of Japan Finance N.V.

Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes Due 1989

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated July 16, 1981 between The Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, Limited and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company as Fiscal Agent, \$30,000,000 principal amount of the above described Notes are called for redemption at their principal amount on July 22, 1985.

Interest on the Notes will cease to accrue on July 22, 1985. The July 22, 1985 coupons should be detached and presented for payment in the usual manner. The Notes will carry an interest rate of 9 3/4% per annum with a coupon amount of \$458.75.

The Notes may be presented for payment at the following addresses:

By Hand
Manufacturers Hanover
Trust Company
130 John Street
Corporate Trust Window
Ground Floor
New York, New York

By Mail
Manufacturers Hanover
Trust Company
Coupon Paying Department
P.O. Box 2862, GPO Station
New York, New York 10116

The Notes may also be surrendered to:

Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, London
Trust Company, Frankfurt/Main
The Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, Ltd., London
The Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, Ltd., Tokyo
Credit Lyonnais, Paris
Banque Paribas, Luxembourg
Lombard S.A., Brussels

Dated: June 13, 1985

Granville & Co. Limited

Member of The National Association of Security Dealers
and Investment Managers

8 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8DT Telephone 01-621 1212

Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Gross Yield	Fully P/E
140	122	Ass. Bt. Ind. Ord.	137	-2	8.6	4.5
151	138	Ass. Bt. Ind. Ord.	140	-2	10.0	4.5
77	46	Airbus Group	46d	-1	6.4	13.9
42	28	Armstrong & Rhodes	28	-1	2.5	8.0
158	108	Bardon Hill	107d	-1	4.0	2.5
60	42	Bay Technology	42	-1	3.9	8.5
201	161	CCl Ordinary	162	-1	12.0	7.4
128	105	CCl 10% Conv. Pref.	105d	-1	15.7	8.9
152	100	Corbourn Ord.	126	-2	4.9	3.8
58	38	Corbourn 7 1/2% Pf.	38d	-1	10.0	12.7
73	46	Daborn Services	46	-1	6.5	14.1
338	182	Frank Marshall	182	-2	8.5	13.8
270	170	Frank Marshall P.O.	170	-2	8.5	10.8
32	22	Frederick Parker	22	-1	7.7	13.5
32	22	George Blair	22	-1	7.7	13.5
50	30	George Blair	30	-1	7.7	13.5
118	77	Isis Group	77	-1	15.0	8.5
124	101	Jackson Group	110	-1	5.5	5.0
285	213	James Bureau	213	-2	15.0	12.5
93	63	James Bureau SpC	63	-1	12.9	14.5
95	71	John Howard & Co.	71	-1	5.0	5.3
225	100	Linghouse 10 1/2% Pf.	100	-1	15.0	16.3
950	300	Minihouse Holding NV	300	-1	6.5	1.1
120	81	Rebel James	81	-1	10.0	12.7
60	28	Scutrons A	28	-1	5.0	7.5
52	31	Torrey and Carls	31	-1	5.0	6.7
444	328	Trevin House	328	-2	13.3	8.8
30	17	Unilock Holdings	30	-1	1.3	4.3
104	68	Weller Alexander	68	-1	7.5	7.5
247	216	W. S. Yates	216	-2	11.7	7.8

Prices and details of services now available on Prestal, page 48148

Foreigners to be offered
share stake in Britoil

BY JOHN MAXINSON

THE GOVERNMENT will invite foreign investors to buy shares in Britoil when it offers its 48.8 per cent holding in the company for sale later this summer. Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank advising the Government on the sale, said yesterday that a portion of the shareholding would be marketed abroad as a result of the interest shown by overseas investment houses.

Mr. Marcus Agius, a director of Lazard Brothers, said that the shares would be sold in Switzerland, West Germany and the Netherlands. The Government had considered marketing Britoil in the U.S. but has been deterred by the length and complexity of the registration procedures.

The sale, which will be at a fixed price and in two instalments, is expected to raise around £500m.

Irish Leathers' receiver
appointed as losses rise

BY DAVID GOODHART

Irish Leathers, the County Waterford-based leather manufacturers, has been put into receivership by the country's state rescue bank, Forf Teoranta, after several years of heavy losses. Its shares were suspended on the Stock Exchange yesterday at 3.5p.

Mr. Bernard Somers, the receiver, said he was looking to sell the group as a going concern and had already received two inquiries—one from inside the Irish Republic and one from outside.

For Teoranta, which funds firms in trouble if they are achieving viability, has spent about £3.2m on trying to save the company.

The 1984 accounts showed a loss of £0.5m in 1983 but despite claims of a slow recovery in the company's fortunes For

equity privately among its clients.

The Government offered the first tranche of Britoil shares for sale in November 1982, when all but 30 per cent of the issue was left to the underwriters. The failure of that offer soured the attitude of some City institutions towards the company.

Foreign investors were not directly involved in that offer for sale and may therefore be better disposed towards Britoil than some UK investors.

Although the Government is selling its remaining stake in Britoil it will retain a "golden share" to block unwelcome takeover bids for the company. So there is little danger that the shares being placed overseas can be used as a platform to mount a bid for Britoil.

Sapphire
worth
£32m at
offer price

By Lucy Kellaway

THE FULL prospectus is published today for an offer for sale of 6m shares at 150p each in Sapphire Petroleum, which is being brought to the USM by brokers Williams de Broe Hill Chaplin.

The company will be raising £9m before expenses in one of the largest offers for sale that the USM has seen, all of which is new money for the company.

At the placing price, Sapphire is capitalised at £31.5m, which places it fourth in size in the USM oil sector.

Sapphire was set in 1981 by a group of UK institutional investors who jointly invested £10m in oil and gas exploration in the U.S.

The company plans to continue its strategy of low to medium risk exploration, while committing a further 10 per cent of its cash flow to highly speculative wildcat drilling.

comment

Now is not a good time for Sapphire to be coming to market. Investors are understandably wary about backing any more USM oil exploration companies, and furthermore the U.S. gas market, though tight in the doldrums. However, this issue does have various things to recommend it. First, the company has a four-year track record and far from taking the opportunity to climb out, some of the existing shareholders are coming back for more. Secondly, the bulk of the money being raised is going towards the development of proven resources rather than to the more risky search for more. One of the company's largest fields now being developed in South Madden, Wyoming, may have a life of nearly 30 years, and thus provide some measure of security about the future. This all makes Sapphire a slightly safer proposition than some of its USM predecessors. However, drilling being carried out at Mississippi, while no disaster if it fails, could give any investors' brave enough to back yet another oil company, a magnificent return should it succeed.

Trafalgar buys U.S. oil

Trafalgar Oil and Gas, a U.S. subsidiary of Trafalgar House, the construction shipping and property group, announced yesterday that it had purchased 9m barrels of proven oil reserves for \$26.5m (£20.4m) from USNOCO, a Texas-based oil company.

The deal includes the purchase of working interests in over 500 producing oil wells as well as undeveloped acreage and royalty interests in the Spraberry Tract fields in Texas.

Mr. John Brewster Jr., president of Trafalgar House Oil and Gas, said yesterday that the acquisition would provide the company with an excellent entry into the West Texas area. He said the company was planning an aggressive drilling programme on the undeveloped acreage in Spraberry in order to fully exploit the potential of the acquisition.

Over the past 15 months, Trafalgar House Oil and Gas, based in Houston, has had working interests in over 100 exploration wells in Louisiana and on the Gulf Coast.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

COMPO HOLDINGS, property investment and development group, has announced lower pre-tax profits of £488,000 for the year ended April 30, 1985, against £730,000. Its net asset value stood at 48p (43p) per 20p share.

There was a tax credit of £226,000 (debit £304,000) and stated net earnings, before an extraordinary £422,000 credit, emerged at 33.4p (10.3p). The dividend is raised 0.5p to 5p.

FIL, fruit and vegetable merchant, raised pre-tax profits from £1.0m to £1.35m in the year ended April 30, 1985. Turnover rose to £33.7m (£25.19m). Earnings increased to 4.35p (3.7p) and the interim dividend is 1.3p (1.15p) net per share. The shares are traded on the USM.

LIFECARE International, the building contractor and property developer mainly involved in the provision of retirement homes and sheltered housing is acquiring Treast Trust (Holdings), an investment holding company for £2.7m, as a vehicle for increasing its own resources. Lifecare will fund the purchase of Treast, whose assets of £2.85m are mainly in cash and short-dated gilt edged securities by the issue of 7.45m new ordinary shares. These shares have already been placed on behalf of the vendors at a price of 36p per share.

BIRMINGHAM MINT has shown higher pre-tax profits thanks to some recovery in the world coin market coupled with a better result in the medals division. The result was £857,000, against £334,000.

Group prospects for the current year, says the chairman, appear more promising than at any time in the last few years. Earnings per share rose to 28.6p (12.4p) after tax of £285,000 (£56,000). The final dividend is being raised to 8p, lifting the total to 11.5p (10.5p).

SHAW CARPETS' turnover rose from £40.7m to £41.53m in the year ended April 28, 1985, but pre-tax profit slumped to £348,000 from £394,000. Earnings per 10p share fell from 6.4p to 1.5p and the proposed final dividend is held at 1.5p making an unchanged 2.5p for the year.

SCANTYRONIC HOLDINGS, a USM quoted manufacturer of electronic data communication equipment and systems, earned a record taxable profit of £709,101, against £423,373, for the year to end-March 1985. Exports were up from 25 per cent to 34 per cent of total group turnover up by \$12,550 to £2.55m. Earnings per 21p share for 1984-85 rose from 6.2p to 8.5p. The directors are recommending a final dividend payment of 1.2p which makes a total payout of 1.9p compared with the previous year's single final dividend of 1p.

STANDARD SECURITIES, the property investment and trading group, saw its rental income increase slightly in the six months to March 31, 1985 to £1.08m (£1.06m). Pre-tax profits rose from £768,000 to £1.01m. An interim payment of 1.27p has been declared, compared with last year's 1.15p, when a total payment of 2.85p was made.

African Development Bank

US\$100,000,000

Subordinated Floating Rate Notes 1996

In accordance with the terms and conditions of the Notes, notice is hereby given, that for the initial interest period June 27, 1985 to December 27, 1985 the Notes will carry an interest rate of 8 1/4 percent per annum for 183 days. The amount payable per US\$10,000 nominal amount will be US\$425.73.

27 June 1985
THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N.A.
LONDON, AGENT BANK



DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

Company	Int.	175	175	75
A. G. Barry	Int.	8	7.5	11.5
Birmingham Mint	Int.	2	2	2
John Booth	Int.	4.6	4.6	4.6
R.P.R. Inds	Int.	5.1	5.1	5.1
Richcliffe	Int.	2.3	2.3	2.3
Richcliffe Dredging	Int.	4.9	4.1	7.8
Cable & Wireless	Int.	5.2	4.3	5.2
Compo Holdings	Int.	2.4	2.4	2.4
Danese Inv	Int.	2.4	2.4	2.4
Edridge, Pope	Int.	1.4	1.4	1.4
Ferrand	Int.	1.8	1.8	1.8
Glass Glover	Int.	2.75	2.75	2.75
Hampton Gold	Int.	5	4.5	11.5
Harvey & Hanson Int	Int.	5	5	5
Arthur Henriquez	Int.	5	5	5
Wegs Robinson	Int.	5	5	5
Laurie Group	Int.	5.25	4.5	9.5
LM	Int.	1.2	0.6	1.6
Mareau Hides	Int.	2.76	2.76	2.76
G. Raddick	Int.	1.2	1.2	1.2
Scatwood	Int.	1.5	1.5	1.5
Shaw Carpets	Int.	1.2	1.2	1.2
Standard Secs	Int.	1.27	1.27	1.27

UK ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY—Indices of industrial production, manufacturing output (1980=100); engineering orders (1980=100); retail sales volume (1978=100); retail sales value (1980=100); registered unemployment (excluding school leavers) and unfilled vacancies (000s). All seasonally adjusted.

	Ind. prod.	Mfg. output	Eng. order	Retail vol.	Retail value	Unem.	Vacs.
1984							
1st qtr.	104.0	96.0	103	107.7	122.7	2,998	147.0
2nd qtr.	102.0	99.9	107	110.2	129.1	3,026	154.0
3rd qtr.	102.4	101.4	107	111.1	133.3	3,076	155.1
4th qtr.	102.3	100.9	105	113.5	134.0	3,103	162.9
October	102.8	100.2	107	112.0	129.9	3,100	170.5
November	103.1	100.9	103	112.7	129.6	3,102	167.6
December	103.6	101.5	104	115.6	134.9	3,108	161.3
1985							
1st qtr.	105.1	101.2	92	112.6	133.9	3,138	157.5
January	104.1	99.5	89	111.6	134.4	3,224	157.2
February	104.5	101.1	95	112.0	130.2	3,144	156.1
March	104.8	102.2	91	113.8	136.7	3,147	156.3
April	107.4	101.7	91	114.1	140.3	3,176	166.7
May				115.2		3,180	167.1

OUTPUT—By market sector: consumer goods, investment goods, intermediate goods (materials and fuels); engineering output, metal manufacture, textiles, leather and clothing (1980=100); housing starts (000s, monthly average).

	Consumer goods	Investment goods	Eng. output	Metal mfg.	Textile	Hous. starts
1984						
1st qtr.	100.1	93.3	110.5	96.3	112.4	96.0
2nd qtr.	101.4	95.7	105.3	98.0	107.0	97.2
3rd qtr.	101.9	98.2	104.6	100.5	111.1	97.9
4th qtr.	102.3	100.5	102.5	99.0	107.7	98.3
October	102.0	96.0	106.0	99.0	106.0	99.0
November	102.0	97.0	106.0	99.0	106.0	99.0
December	102.0	98.0	107.0	100.0	106.0	99.0
1985						
1st qtr.	103.1	97.3	109.5	99.4	108.8	100.0
January	102.0	95.0	109.0	97.0	102.0	99.0
February	103.9	98.0	106.0	99.0	109.0	100.0
March	104.0	101.0	111.0	102.0	115.0	102.0
April	105.0	100.0	113.0	101.0	110.0	100.0
May						

EXTERNAL TRADE—Indices of export and import volume (1980=100); viable balance; current balance (£m); oil balance (£m); terms of trade (1980=100); excluding reserves.

	Export	Import	Current	Oil	Terms
1984					
1st qtr.	108.7	112.1	-57	+633	+2,332
2nd qtr.	107.3	117.1	-1228	-592	+1,543
3rd qtr.	108.0	119.3	-1153	-641	+1,506
4th qtr.	117.5	126.1	-1267	+641	+1,668
October	118.0	120.5	-177	+303	+352
November	119.2	125.2	-344	+136	+743
December					
1985					
1st qtr.	118.7	125.6	-1947	-96	+1,562
January	116.6	118.6	-88	+32	+926
February	121.7	124.6	-263	+137	+676
March	117.6	123.7	-999	+565	+956
April	119.6	128.3	-777	+123	+684
May					

FINANCIAL—Money supply M0, M1 and sterling M3, bank advances in sterling to the private sector (three months' growth at annual rate); building societies' net inflow; H.P. new credit; all seasonally adjusted. Clearing Bank has rat. (end period).

	M0	M1	M3	Advances	HP	Base
1984						
1st qtr.	4.1	10.1	8.3	13.6	2,609	2,868
2nd qtr.	4.5	24.5	11.3	18.9	1,795	2,870
3rd qtr.	5.3	10.2	6.3	9.9	1,628	2,809
4th qtr.	9.6	24.3	32.4	16.9	2,482	2,941
November	9.5	27.3	18.6	17.1	363	967
December	12.2	27.1	12.1	22.4	1,004	971
1985						
1st qtr.	2.2	0.7	9.1	15.2	1,511	3,146
January	6.0	9.0	23.6	16.3	823	1,166
February	1.1	8.0	4.5	12.3	474	1,008
March	1.3	1.2	2.2	16.0	214	972
April	5.4	22.2	18.5	19.5	907	1,060
May	4.4	34.0	38.0	17.7	615	1,263

INFLATION—Indices of earnings (Jan 1980=100); basic materials and fuel; wholesale prices of manufactured products (1980=100); retail prices and food prices (1978=100); commodity index (July 1982=100); trade weighted value of sterling (1978=100).

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UK COMPANY NEWS

Hogg Robinson at record £14.2m

THE Hogg Robinson Group, recently involved in a takeover bid for the British Airline Pilots' Association, has reported a record pre-tax profit of £14.2m for the year ended 31 March 1985.

Mr Albert Whewey, the chairman, says the results fully justify the confidence expressed last year in the future of the group. He adds: "The expected improvement in the company's performance is now clearly under way."

The profits were struck after charging an exception £50,000 for estimated irrecoverable amounts relating to trading activities a number of years ago and which do not relate to current operations.

Along with its preliminary results covering the 12 months to March 31 1985, the group reveals that it has agreed to buy full control of its U.S. broking associate, Republic Hogg Robinson, for \$7.7m (£7.7m), from the LTV Corporation of Dallas.

Consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 8.5m ordinary shares in Hogg Robinson. LTV wishes to receive cash the new shares being placed yesterday by Baring Brothers at 22p per share.

Turnover for the year improved from £17.2m to £17.8m—the group is Britain's sixth largest independent insurance broker with other interests in travel and transport. A final dividend of 4.2p lifts



Mr Albert Whewey.

the total from 6.75p to 5p net per 25p share, an increase of 18.5 per cent.

Brokerage profits grew last year by 22 per cent. Mr Christopher Price, group chief executive, says all areas of the group, both in the UK and overseas, contributed to the increase in the group's broking earnings which have benefited mostly from real growth in business and improvements in expense ratios, with some advantage also from currency gains.

In America, Republic Hogg Robinson continues to make excellent progress. During the

year the group added two companies to its existing business in Australia making it one of the leading broking houses.

The travel and transport activities increased their contribution to pre-tax earnings by 40 per cent. Travel bookings continue to show good growth and the transport companies have healthy order books.

The proportion of the group's profits from the two principal Lloyd's managing agencies now represents 18 per cent of profits before tax, compared with 27 per cent last year.

The computer and investment services division contributed a small profit compared with significant losses both at the half year and for the previous year.

A divisional breakdown of turnover and profits shows insurance broking £44.4m (£38.4m) and £9.8m (£7.8m), Lloyd's underwriting agencies £4.5m (£4.3m), and £2.7m (£2.0m).

Lloyd's underwriting agencies (£4.5m) and investment services (£1.1m) and £2.0m (£1.0m) loss.

£5.34m (£5.44m) and minorities £1.02m (£7.00m). Earnings per share totalled 19.6p (14.20p). Attributable profits emerged at £5.75m, against £9.12m, after taking account of extraordinary debits of £1.15m for reorganisation, compared with previous credits of £4.26m.

Retained profits amounted to £2.78m (£5.52m).

● comment

In yesterday's market, Hogg Robinson was fortunate indeed to get away with a vendor placing at a discount of only 6 per cent as it is Republic Hogg Robinson is now freed of the curious anomaly of being half-owned by an industrial corporation and with prospective net income of 3m or so for its year to December, as well as useful tax losses, the price paid does not look excessive. For the moment, RIR cannot fail to make money alongside the rest of the broking business, provided that Lloyd's profits continue to chip away at its expense ratios. In the travel business, Hogg Robinson expects to be competitive with its competitors and in any way, partly shielded against competitive price-cutting by its 40 per cent exposure to the business travel sector. With the share price following the market down to 22p, pre-tax profits for the year of at least £17.5m imply a p/e ratio of only 8.1, while the yield is 6.1 per cent.

Ruddles fails to hit sales target

G. Ruddles, the Rutland-based brewer, failed to attain its sales target over the second six months and for the full year to March 30 1985 saw little change in its profits before tax.

Explaining the shortfall, Mr Tony Ruddles, the chairman, says that delay in commissioning new brewer capacity, which had been scheduled to come on stream in the autumn, prevented the company from generating additional volume for the Christmas trade.

He confirms, however, that the plant is now operational, and that the sales situation is being remedied.

For the past year turnover pushed ahead from £10.1m to £10.48m, and pre-tax profits came through at £1.02m, compared with £1.02m. Tax took £0.65m, leaving £3.43m, against a previous £2.2p.

The dividend is held at net 4p per share by a same-day final 2.5p.

Mr Ruddles says the company is healthy and strong, has ample cash resources and looks forward to a strong 1985.

The company's shares are traded on the LSE.

LMI achieves £7.7m target and looks for further expansion

A RECORD £7.7m in pre-tax profits was achieved by London & Midland Industries for the year to end-March 1985, compared with £5.02m previously, a 54 per cent increase. The result is in line with the forecast made at the time of LMI's abortive takeover bid for Allied Textile Companies, earlier this year.

At the interim stage LMI, a holding company with interests in engineering and industrial services and consumer products, had achieved £7.7m (£2.21m) and Mr Bill Biddow, the chairman, says that the year's profits were obtained purely by organic growth as no acquisitions took place.

As forecast, a final 5.25p dividend is now proposed, compared with 4.5p. This brings the total for the year to 9.50p, a rise of 19 per cent. Net earnings per share are shown up from 11p to 17.1p.

On the future the chairman says LMI is strongly based and well diversified group of companies engaged in the manufacture of a wide range of consumer products.

Mr Biddow says the company is healthy and strong, has ample cash resources and looks forward to a strong 1985.

The company's shares are traded on the LSE.

are expected to derive, and the UK.

The various businesses are run as independent reporting units, while central management is concerned with financial control and overall group policy.

The chairman says that success in introducing new business opportunities into the LMI group by a selective acquisition policy has benefited both existing and new shareholders, and the company has increased the base from which further expansions can be made.

He adds that the board will continue with confidence to plan the group's expansion. In addition to the Allied Textile bid, LMI also made an offer during the year for Hoskins & Horton, which lapsed in face of a higher bid.

Group turnover improved from £7.1m to £22.0m, generating operating profits of £8.8m (£5.93m). Interest took a little change £1.3m (£1.14).

● comment

LMI's voracious appetite for further acquisitions to add to its diverse holding of 22 companies went unsatisfied last year, not least through the failure of its bid for Hoskins & Horton, the hospital equipment and light engineering group, last

winter. However, the digestion of earlier purchases provided the means for another impressive leap in profits. It seems unrealistic to expect a repeat performance from the existing activities this year home improvements are not going to get another boost from the effects of Budget changes on VAT, and the edge is likely to be taken off growth in the value of its U.S. companies' sales by sterling's rise against the dollar and a less buoyant U.S. economy. Dramatic growth will come only through further acquisitions, and following the disappointment of LMI's failure to acquire Allied Textile Companies this month, other moves are thought to be imminent. Leaving this aside, forecasts of an underlying 15 per cent increase in profits to £3m appear realistic. With a 40 per cent tax charge and the shares up 1p at 17.50, this has the prospective p/e looking undemanding at 8, especially given the dividend yield of 7.1 per cent.

● comment

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U.S. \$100,000,000 The Sumitomo Trust Finance (H.K.) Limited

(Incorporated in Hong Kong)

12½% Guaranteed Notes Due 1992



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to Condition 5(c) of the Notes, US\$122,000,000 principal amount of the Notes has been drawn for redemption on 29th July, 1985, at the redemption price of 101% of the principal amount, together with accrued interest to 29th July, 1985. The serial numbers of the Notes drawn for redemption are as follows:—

5	407	861	1289	1730	2169	2570	3074	3492	3947	4351	4852	5298	5762	6189	6647	7162	7582	8069	8574	8989	9437	9878	10336	10854	11271	11727	12197	12703	13132	13592	14057	14576	15014	15429	15831	16245	16659	17206	17600	18077	18542	19110	19549
9	409	862	1294	1737	2170	2583	3089	3494	3957	4367	4868	5304	5773	6203	6651	7170	7596	8075	8579	8994	9445	9888	10344	10861	11278	11727	12197	12703	13132	13592	14058	14584	15018	15434	15833	16246	16663	17208	17606	18093	18547	19111	19549
10	410	873	1301	1739	2172	2596	3094	3497	3958	4368	4869	5305	5774	6203	6651	7170	7596	8075	8579	8994	9445	9888	10344	10861	11278	11727	12197	12703	13132	13592	14058	14584	15018	15434	15833	16246	16664	17207	17606	18093	18547	19111	19552
11	411	880	1302	1740	2173	2603	3101	3504	3965	4375	4876	5312	5781	6211	6659	7172	7597	8076	8580	8995	9446	9889	10345	10862	11280	11728	12198	12704	13133	13593	14059	14584	15018	15434	15833	16247	16665	17212	17607	18093	18551	19112	19555
12	412	881	1305	1741	2174	2604	3102	3505	3966	4376	4877	5313	5782	6212	6660	7173	7598	8077	8581	8997	9447	9890	10346	10863	11281	11729	12200	12705	13134	13594	14060	14584	15018	15434	15833	16248	16666	17213	17608	18094	18552	19113	19556
13	413	882	1306	1742	2175	2605	3103	3506	3967	4377	4878	5314	5783	6213	6661	7174	7600	8078	8582	8997	9448	9891	10347	10864	11282	11730	12201	12706	13135	13595	14061	14585	15019	15435	15834	16249	16667	17214	17609	18095	18553	19114	19557
14	414	883	1307	1743	2176	2606	3104	3507	3968	4378	4879	5315	5784	6214	6662	7175	7601	8079	8583	9000	9449	9892	10348	10865	11283	11731	12202	12707	13136	13596	14062	14585	15020	15435	15835	16250	16668	17215	17610	18096	18554	19115	19558
15	415	884	1308	1744	2177	2607	3105	3508	3969	4379	4880	5316	5785	6215	6663	7176	7602	8080	8584	9001	9450	9893	10349	10866	11284	11732	12203	12708	13137	13597	14063	14586	15021	15436	15836	16251	16669	17216	17611	18097	18555	19116	19559
16	416	885	1309	1745	2178	2608	3106	3509	3970	4380	4881	5317	5786	6216	6664	7177	7603	8081	8585	9002	9451	9894	10350	10867	11285	11733	12204	12709	13138	13598	14064	14587	15022	15437	15837	16252	16670	17217	17612	18098	18556	19117	19560
17	417	886	1310	1746	2179	2609	3107	3510	3971	4381	4882	5318	5787	6217	6665	7178	7604	8082	8586	9003	9452	9895	10351	10868	11286	11734	12205	12710	13139	13599	14065	14588	15023	15438	15838	16253	16671	17218	17613	18099	18557	19118	19561
18	418	887	1311	1747	2180	2610	3108	3511	3972	4382	4883	5319	5788	6218	6666	7179	7605	8083	8587	9004	9453	9896	10352	10869	11287	11735	12206	12711	13140	13600	14066	14589	15024	15439	15839	16254	16672	17219	17614	18100	18558	19119	19562
19	419	888	1312	1748	2181	2611	3109	3512	3973	4383	4884	5320	5789	6219	6667	7180	7606	8084	8588	9005	9454	9897	10353	10870	11288	11736	12207	12712	13141	13601	14067	14590	15025	15440	15840	16255	16673	17220	17615	18101	18559	19120	19563
20	420	889	1313	1749	2182	2612	3110	3513	3974	4384	4885	5321	5790	6220	6668	7181	7607	8085	8589	9006	9455	9898	10354	10871	11289	11737	12208	12713	13142	13602	14068	14591	15026	15441	15841	16256	16674	17221	17616	18102	18560	19121	19564
21	421	890	1314	1750	2183	2613	3111	3514	3975	4385	4886	5322	5791	6221	6669	7182	7608	8086	8590	9007	9456	9899	10355	10872	11290	11738	12209	12714	13143	13603	14069	14592	15027	15442	15842	16257	16675	17222	17617	18103	18561	19122	19565
22	422	891	1315	1751	2184	2614	3112	3515	3976	4386	4887	5323	5792	6222	6670	7183	7609	8087	8591	9008	9457	9900	10356	10873	11291	11739	12210	12715	13144	13604	14070	14593	15028	15443	15843	16258	16676	17223	17618	18104	18562	19123	19566
23	423	892	1316	1752	2185	2615	3113	3516	3977	4387	4888	5324	5793	6223	6671	7184	7610	8088	8592	9009	9458	9901	10357	10874	11292	11740	12211	12716	13145	13605	14071	14594	15029	15444	15844	16259	16677	17224	17619	18105	18563	19124	19567
24	424	893	1317	1753	2186	2616	3114	3517	3978	4388	4889	5325	5794	6224	6672	7185	7611	8089	8593	9010	9459	9902	10358	10875	11293	11741	12212	12717	13146	13606	14072	14595	15030	15445	15845	16260	16678	17225	17620	18106	18564	19125	19568
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26	426	895	1319	1755	2188	2618	3116	3519	3980	4390	4891	5327	5796	6226	6674	7187	7613	8091	8595	9012	9461	9904	10360	10877	11295	11743	12214	12719	13148	13608	14074	14597	15032	15447	15847	16262	16680	17227	17622	18108	18566	19127	19570
27	427	896	1320	1756	2189	2619	3117	3520	3981	4391	4892	5328	5797	6227	6675	7188	7614	8092	8596	9013	9462	9905	10361	10878	11296	11744	12215	12720	13149	13609	14075	14598	15033	15448	15848	16263	16681	17228	17623	18109	18567	19128	19571
28	428	897	1321	1757	2190	2620	3118	3521	3982	4392	4893	5329	5798	6228	6676	7189	7615	8093	8597	9014	9463	9906	10362	10879	11297	11745	12216	12721	13150	13610	14076	14599	15034	15449	15849	16264	16682	17229	17624	18110	18568	19129	19572
29	429	898	1322	1758	2191	2621	3119	3522	3983	4393	4894	5330	5799	6229	6677	7190	7616	8094	8598	9015	9464	9907	10363	10880	11298	11746	12217	12722	13151	13611	14077	14600	15035	15450	15850	16265	16683	17230	17625	18111	18569	19130	19573
30	430	899	1323	1759	2192	2622	3120	3523	3984	4394	4895	5331	5800	6230	6678	7191	7617	8095	8599	9016	9465	9908	10364	10881	11299	11747	12218	12723	13152	13612	14078	14601	15036	15451	15851	16266	16684	17231	17626	18112	18570	19131	19574
31	431	900	1324	1760	2193	2623	3121	3524	3985	4395	4896	5332	5801	6231	6679	7192	7618	8096	8600	9017	9466	9909	10365	10882	11300	11748	12219	12724	13153	13613	14079	14602	15037	15452	15852	16267	16685	17232	17627	18113	18571	19132	19575
32	432	901	1325	1761	2194	2624	3122	3525	3986	4396	4897	5333	5802	6232	6680	7193	7619	8097	8601	9018	9467	9910	10366	10883	11301	11749	12220	12725	13154	13614	14080	14603	15038	15453	15853	16268	16686	17233	17628	18114	18572	19133	19576
33	433	902	1326	1762	2195	2625	3123	3526	3987	4397	4898	5334	5803	6233	6681	7194	7620	8098	8602	9019	9468	9911	10367	10884	11302	11750	12221	12726	13155	13615	14081	14604	15039	15454	15854	16269	16687	17234	17629	18115	18573	19134	19577
34	434	903	1327	1763	2196	2626	3124	3527	3988	4398	4899	5335	5804	6234	6682	7195	7621	8099	8603	9020	9469	9912	10368	10885	11303	11751	12222	12727	13156	13616	14082	14605	15040	15455	15855	16270	16688	17235	17630	18116	18574	19135	19578
35	435	904	1328	1764	2197	2627	3125	3528	3989	4399	4900	5336	5805	6235	6683	7196	7622	8100	8604	9021	9470	9913	10369	10886	11304	11752	12223	12728	13157	13617	14083	14606	15041	15456	15856	16271	16689	17236	17631	18117	18575	19136	19579
36	436	905	1329	1765	2198	2628	3126	3529	3990	4400	4901	5337	5806	6236	6684	7197	7623	8101	8605	9022	9471	9914	10370	10887	11305	11753	12224	12729	13158	13618	14084	14607	15042	15457	15857	16272	16690	17237	17632	18118	18576	19137	19580
37	437	906	1330	1766	2199	2629	3127	3530	3991	4401	4902	5338	5807	6237	6685	7198	7624	8102	8606	9023	9472	9915	10371	10888	11306	11754	12225	12730	13159	13619	1408												

New Issue These Bonds having been sold, this announcement appears as a matter of record only.

June 1985



International Finance Corporation

Washington, D.C.

DM 90,000,000

7½% Bearer Bonds of 1985/1995

— Private Placement —

Berliner Handels- und Frankfurter Bank

To the Holders of WARRANTS

to subscribe for shares of common stock of
**SUMITOMO REALTY &
DEVELOPMENT CO., LTD.**

(Issued in conjunction with an issue by Sumitomo Realty & Development Co., Ltd. (the "Company") of U.S. \$40,000,000 8% Guaranteed Bonds Due 1989)

NOTICE OF FREE DISTRIBUTION OF SHARES AND ADJUSTMENT OF SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Pursuant to Clause 4 (A) of the Instrument dated December 19, 1984 under which the above described Warrants were issued, you are hereby notified that a free distribution of Shares of our Company at the rate of 0.08 share for each one share held has been made to shareholders of record as of March 31, 1985, Japan time, (but such day being a holiday, as of March 30, 1985, as a matter of practice, Japan time).

As a result of such distribution, the Subscription Price at which shares are issuable upon exercise of the Warrants has been adjusted pursuant to Condition 7 of the Warrants from 563 Japanese Yen to 521.3 Japanese Yen effective as of April 1, 1985.

Sumitomo Realty & Development Co., Ltd.

Dated: June 27, 1985

To the Holders of **SUMITOMO REALTY & DEVELOPMENT CO., LTD.**

5½% Convertible Bonds 1997

NOTICE OF FREE DISTRIBUTION OF SHARES AND ADJUSTMENT OF CONVERSION PRICE

Pursuant to Clause 7 (B) of the Trust Deed dated October 7, 1981 under which the above described Bonds were issued, you are hereby notified that a free distribution of Shares of our Company at the rate of 0.08 share for each one share held has been made to shareholders of record as of March 31, 1985, Japan time, (but such day being a holiday, as of March 30, 1985, as a matter of practice, Japan time).

As a result of such distribution, the Conversion Price at which shares are issuable upon conversion of said Bonds has been adjusted pursuant to Condition 5 (C) of the Bonds from 216 Japanese Yen to 202.6 Japanese Yen effective as of April 1, 1985.

Sumitomo Realty & Development Co., Ltd.

Dated: June 27, 1985

UK COMPANY NEWS

Glass Glover hits target but expansion costs high

THE Glass Glover Group has met its profits forecast for the opening six months but says it is currently absorbing considerable costs associated with the expansion programme and the integration of two recent acquisitions. Shareholders are told that these short term costs will inevitably have an influence on the full year outcome while the resultant benefits will materialise during 1986.

For the half year to March 31, 1985, group turnover was little changed at £30.97m (£30.94m) but profits before tax rose to £751,983, an increase of 15.5 per cent over last year's £651,090. The profits matched the directors' forecast made in May at the time of the £2.5m acquisition of Louis Reece, a leading fresh fruit wholesaler.

Glass Glover, based in London, is a food distributor and importer of fresh fruit and vegetables.

During the first six months the adverse effects of the dollar's strength coupled with extreme climatic conditions depressed turnover and profits in the fresh produce sector.

The directors point out, however, that this was more than compensated by income from increased activity and continuing development in third party distribution.

Currently, trading in all aspects of the group's activities is in line with expectations and, barring unforeseen circumstances, profits for the year will be satisfactory—pre-tax profits for 1985-86 advanced to £1.84m.

Meanwhile, the interim dividend is being lifted from 1.375p to 1.6p on the capital increased by the 27.3m rights issue of last March.

Tax for the half year took £235,400 (£268,350) to leave net profits 35 per cent ahead at £516,583 (£382,730).

Earnings per 5p share rose from an adjusted 4.12p to 4.62p.

comment

For some while the market has been well aware that Glass

Glover would forfeit much of its profits growth this year in favour of expanding the base of its business and yesterday's rise was right in line with the company's earlier forecast. But it was possible to detect a degree of unease amongst the analysts about their earlier predictions of £2.5m pre-tax for the full year. The second half will carry the full costs of reorganising and integrating two acquisitions and developing the Harlow warehouse complex. And the rights money has probably been put to use quicker than the market had expected. So it might be safer to think in terms of £2.1m to £2.2m for this year, which leaves the prospective p/e at 25.5p at a pretty heady 24. But 1985-86 is when the profits should really start to push forward again and forecasts of £3.1m to £3.5m pre-tax, dropping the p/e into the mid-teens seem about right. Given the company's reputation and its place in the food sector, the current highly fashionable food distributionism is not misplaced.

Morceau profits jump by 93% to £1.3m

DESPITE POOR weather conditions in the UK during the winter, Morceau Holdings, supplier and installer of passive fire protection systems, achieved a good level of activity on all contracts.

With turnover 51 per cent ahead from £4.55m to £6.86m, this Nottinghamshire-based group lifted pre-tax profits by 93 per cent to £1.31m in the six months to end-March 1985, against a previous £677,000.

In the light of these results the directors are doubling the interim dividend to 1.2p. For the period from the placing of the shares in February to end-September, 1984, a total of 1.6p per share was paid. Last year's profits amounted to £1.58m.

For this half stated net earnings per 10p share are shown almost doubled, from 4.8p to 9.5p.

Mr R. A. Cochrane and Mr P. S. Smith, joint chairmen, say that during the first half the group's overseas projects continued to progress well. The group's order intake has increased and market conditions both at home and abroad reflect a high level of enquiry.

comment

The specialised market in fireproofing steel structures is turning out to be even more profitable for Morceau than the City had bargained for. Despite the fact that its shares have doubled since its flotation last year, and against the backdrop of a falling market, these interim results were encouraging enough to send the price up another 1p to 217p. There seems to be no shortage of fireproofing contracts both onshore and on oil rigs in the North Sea. Although much of the company's total profits this year will come from one single project in Hong Kong for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, due to be completed next year, early signs are good for more work in the area. In the UK, Morceau is insulated to some extent from a downturn in the construction industry by the very long term nature of many of its projects, which include London Bridge City and a platform for British Gas in Morecambe Bay. The business generates cash, and the full year's results could include about £1.5m interest on cash balances that might be about £4m by year end. Following the excellent start to the year, the company now looks set to make about £2.8m in the full year, which, after a 25 per cent tax charge, would make the shares look underpriced on a p/e of about 11.

More O'Ferrall sees poster market upturn

At the annual meeting of More O'Ferrall, advertising giant, Mr Russell Gore-Andrews, the chairman, said that group outlook for the current year was one of recovery of stability in the UK media and a period of consolidation.

This would follow the full integration of Adelphi and IDE into the group, and "enable a firm base for future growth to be established."

The UK poster market had shown an improvement from the beginning of June and was becoming less short-term in some areas. The company was seeing, for More O'Ferrall super-sites and its high quality poster sites, a recovery both in volume and in price.

The proposed acquisition of Adelphi was a major development for the group. Adelphi sales so far this year showed an improvement over 1984.

The company expected More O'Ferrall SA, as a whole, to do at least as well as last year. On June 19 the company completed the purchase of the balance, 26 per cent, of the French subsidiary, IDE.

The market remained strong in Belgium, but had become more hesitant in France.

Brickhouse Dudley profit nearly doubled at £1.7m

NEARLY DOUBLED full year profits of £1.7m, against £0.92m, were attained by Brickhouse Dudley, a supplier of materials and services to the building and civil engineering industry.

Most of the increase stemmed from a recovery on the manufacturing side where trading profits rose to £337,653, compared with £31,486, and comfortably offset higher losses of £275,889, against £68,747 in civil engineering.

Elsewhere, UK distribution operations earned £1.46m (£1.2m), exports added £100,906 (£179,897), and discontinued

British Syphon ahead so far

Mr Bryan Morrell, chairman of British Syphon Industries, told the annual meeting that the directors anticipated a substantial improvement in 1985 profits before tax and earnings per share.

He told shareholders that this was based on management accounts for the five months to the end of May. The directors also expected a significant reduction in gearing.

For the 1984 year the Wilmslow-based industrial holding company reported a 180 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £1.07m and more than doubled earnings of 7.51p.

The meeting heard that following the acquisition of East Lancashire Paper in December the restructuring and integration of the businesses into British Syphon was proceeding smoothly, although plenty of work remained.

Cable and Wireless PRELIMINARY RESULTS

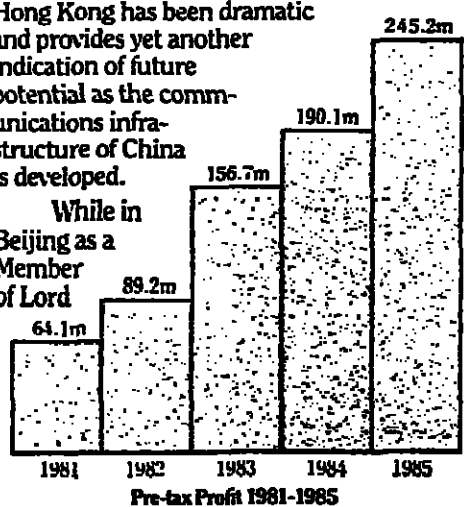
£m	1985	1984
Turnover	862	673
Profit before taxation	245	190
Attributable profit	142	113
Earnings per share	31.9p	25.1p
Dividend per share	7.8p	6.5p

"This is our fourth year since privatisation. I am pleased to announce record profits and turnover for the fourth successive year. Pre-tax profit increased by 29 per cent from £190 million to £245 million and turnover increased by 28% to £862 million.

This year has seen significant Group activity in the implementation of our global strategy. Investment expenditure was £262 million, of which £88 million was in the UK and £23 million in the United States.

The Far East, which now includes Hong Kong Telephone Company, continues to contribute substantial growth to Group revenue and profits. Telecommunication traffic between the mainland of China and Hong Kong is increasing dramatically. Hong Kong is now the principal destination for external calls from the southern provinces of China and from the Shanghai area. Much of the growth has resulted from the continuing number of joint projects which the Group undertakes such as the inauguration of direct dialling between Guangzhou, the provincial capital of Guangdong, on 20 August, 1984. The progress of our Shenda joint venture telephone company in Shenzhen, the largest of China's special economic zones, where direct dialling to and from Hong Kong was introduced on 10 December, 1984, also contributed to the growth. The increase in the volume of telecommunication use between the China territories and Hong Kong has been dramatic and provides yet another indication of future potential as the communications infrastructure of China is developed.

While in Beijing as a Member of Lord



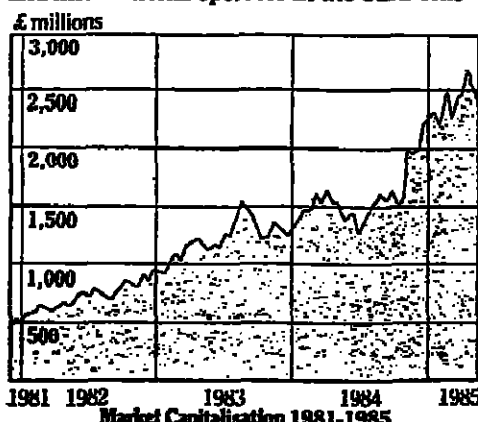
Young's Trade Mission, I signed Letters of Intent with the PT Ministry. The objectives are to co-operate in the telecommunications development of the Yangtze Delta area and to establish a telecommunication centre, probably to be located in Shanghai. During the mission I also signed a joint project agreement with Director Yuan Jiawen of Guangdong Posts and Telecommunication Administrative Bureau (GPTB), to install digital telephone systems in three major cities of the Pearl Delta area. Subsequently another agreement has been reached between GPTB and Cable and Wireless (HK) Limited, which will rapidly extend to another 10 cities in the area the ability to dial directly to Hong Kong.

The expansion of telecommunication services in the Pearl Delta will mean that the existing 2700 channel microwave system between Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou will be fully utilised by 1988. Cable and Wireless (HK) Limited is already discussing a new optical fibre system with GPTB to handle the extra traffic.

The Pacific Basin has been identified as a major growth area for telecommunication and we are actively seeking out opportunities for strengthening the group presence throughout the Pacific Basin as well as in China.

Mercury Communications Limited forms the substance of our development in the UK. It was, therefore, in pursuance of our strategic objective that we grasped the opportunity to establish Mercury as a 100 per

cent owned Cable and Wireless subsidiary by purchasing 50 per cent of its shares from BP towards the end of 1984. Since then the newly appointed management and board of Mercury have accelerated vigorously the expansion of the network and have been notably successful in completing fibre optic cable links from Manchester through Leeds to Birmingham and from Birmingham through London to Bristol. Earth stations have been established in the London Docklands and Oxfordshire to provide communications via the Atlantic and Indian Ocean satellites to the west and east. Now that it has both terrestrial and satellite facilities to offer, Mercury is attracting increasing numbers of customers. It is also offering increasing numbers of different services, the latest of which is a private line facility with AT&T, the major long-distance and international operator in the USA. This



provides immediate access to a wide variety of AT&T's telecommunication services and the many international customers who use them and we look forward to expanding this agreement to include other services in the future. Mercury has also completed the purchase of the network of pipes under London which were used until 1977 by the London Hydraulic Power Company. Fibre optic cables are now being laid in these pipes. By the end of the year a digital switched service will be available to the city using this new network, thus extending significantly the services Mercury can offer on a competitive and high quality basis.

The largest inter-continental traffic stream is between the UK and the US. The decision of the Federal Communications Commission, with the agreement of the US Secretary of State, to grant the application by Tel-Optik—our US partner—to land two fibre optic cables in the US clears all the regulatory and legal requirements and enables us to proceed in the design and commissioning of the first private transatlantic telecommunication cables for decades. Their use will add a new dimension to the security, reliability, speed and cost of transatlantic communications. They will also provide Mercury with secure transatlantic cables complementing its satellite links. Developments within the US are proceeding to plan. The fibre optic cable facility which the Group leases from Amtrak between Washington and New York has proved very successful and additional

capacity is planned on this route. An agreement has been signed with Lightnet to purchase substantial fibre optic cable capacity between Washington and Chicago, one of the busiest routes in the world. The agreement includes options for the purchase of additional routes as and when needed. Construction of the fibre optic cable system in Texas linking Dallas, Austin, San Antonio and Houston is well under way and contracts for substantial amounts of capacity have already been signed up.

The appointments, to the Court of Directors, of Tom Chellev as Director, Bermuda and Caribbean, and John Ormsby as Director, Middle East, Indian Ocean and Africa bring representation at Court of all the major geographic regions in which the Group operates. Together with Brian Pemberton, who becomes Chief Operating Officer on 1 July, 1985, they will provide continuity at Court for more than the next decade. Alan Clements becomes a non-executive director on 1 July. We are sure his experience as Finance Director of ICI will assist in the further strengthening of our Group. I wish also to record my appreciation for the contribution made by Alan Wheatley, whose resignation takes effect from 1 July, and wish him success in his new appointments.

In conclusion, I thank my fellow directors and the managers and staff throughout the world for their support and commitment in maintaining and strengthening the pre-eminent position of the Group as the world's leading international operator of telecommunication services. We will continue to grow and to grow profitably."

Sir Eric Sharp, CBE
Chairman and Chief Executive

Cable and Wireless
THE WORLD LEADER
IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Cable and Wireless plc, Mercury House,
Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8RX.

JOBS COLUMN

Net costs of managers, and their secretaries

BY MICHAEL DIXON

WOMEN READERS are requested to refrain from exploding. Within seconds I am going to quote some short extracts from responses to the Jobs Column of three weeks ago. One of its topics was the differences in fees for finding suitable candidates charged by executive search consultancies on the one hand, and recruiters of top managers' secretaries on the other.

The difference is more than marginal. Executive searchers often charge 30 per cent or more of an appointed candidate's first year's salary, plus expenses, some of which is payable even if no appointment is made. Recruiters of top secretaries charge 15-18 per cent, usually all inclusive, none of it payable unless the post is filled.

What stimulated the response was my suggestion that perhaps employing organisations should start asking why what they can get from a top secretarial agency for as little as 15 per cent, should cost twice as much from some executive searchers. Oddly enough almost all the readers who have replied are searchers wishing to explain that it is not only the charges which are starkly different, but also the services provided.

If some of the terms used in those explanations prove irritating to women, they may find some comfort in knowing things might be worse — if they happened to live in Hong Kong.

Witness the following job advertisement sheltering under a box number, found by colleague David Goodhart who says it appeared in the South China Morning Post. "Very obedient young woman required by American Director for position as Secretary/Personal Assistant. Must be attractive and eager to submit to authority, have good typing and filing skills and be free to travel. Knowledge of Mandarin an advantage. Most important, she should enjoy following orders without question and cheerfully accept directions."

Images

It would be hard to find anyone willing to risk penning, let alone printing, such an advertisement in this part of the world nowadays. But some of the images called up by the responding western headhunters — not all of whom are men — give hints of a certain concession towards secretaries, however senior.

For instance, there are no prizes for guessing which of the two images used in the following explanation represents secretaries in the mind of the executive searcher who wrote it.

"Both a Morris Minor and a Ferrari comprise the same essentials for transportation, namely, a body, four wheels and an engine. The differing complexities of construction,

engineering and performance, however, separate them greatly in price."

Most executives might find rather less appeal in the role implied for them by a further pair of images which plunge us from street level to ocean floor. "Real and cultivated pearls look the same and fulfil the same decorative role . . . (sorry, but for some reason I can't help falling about laughing at that point) . . . the scarcity of one, however, making it vastly more expensive than the other."

Another, less elegant but more salty, half-makes the same claim in stating that executive searchers "are bidding for the caviare of the job market." What, one wonders, is assumed to be the piscine equivalent of top managers' secretaries — fish fingers?

(One thing they apparently cannot be, if the headhunters' uniformly low valuation of them is right, is kippers. Or at least not in Switzerland, to judge by something I overheard a man telling his companion in a City pub some time ago: "I have some good Swiss friends," he said. "Very wealthy people, they are. But do you know what it is in Switzerland — a kipper? Three times the price it is here! I always take a few kippers when I go to Switzerland, and I go there quite a lot, comparatively speaking.")

Yet whatever the precise species represented by senior

secretaries, they are clearly viewed by searchers as small fry. For most of the letters picture seething pools of them, ever ready to leap to a new employer's bait. By contrast executives worth catching are sparse, lurking secure in their chosen holes in the bedrock and liable to savage anyone seeking to prise them out — which makes them seem more like conger eels than sturgeon.

Since there is such a difference between the two varieties' habits, I am assured, executive search is inevitably a low volume, high overheads business and recruiting top secretaries a high volume, low overheads doddle.

Feeling that the debate had been somewhat one-sided so far, I put the headhunters' claims to a representative of the other kind of recruiter: Neil Corby of Directors' Secretaries in London. His immediate response, suitably expurgated, was an invitation to pull the other leg on grounds that it had held on.

While the general market for recruiting secretaries fitted the high volume, low overheads formula, he said, it did not apply to providing a selection-down-to-shortlist service for jobs at the top end of the market. His was a low volume, fixed overheads business.

At no time would it be willing to take on more than 25 job-filling assignments. Before

accepting an employer client it always personally interviewed the top manager requiring the secretary. "Only the bosses themselves can give a proper idea of the person needed, not their deputies, personnel managers or even worse, the secretary who's leaving."

Nor are there shoals of candidates to hand. "It's true we don't go around cold-calling people who wouldn't otherwise be thinking about moving. But that's about the only real difference to my mind."

Few qualified

He places a small advertisement in a quality newspaper each week, which typically draws about 100 applicants. But fewer than 10 are usually adequately qualified in objective terms. "We tend to end up with still fewer because our experience is that there are certain other criteria on which it's wisest to decide against. We don't take people just returned from working overseas, for example. They often can't settle down in their first job afterwards."

"Good senior secretaries work as a partnership with their bosses, not least in spotting and taking care of the various important things that particular top managers have a habit of overlooking. You can't have a partnership like that without

continuity, so we're averse to choppers and changers. We don't take separated people either."

What about the divorced? "Depends on circumstances, how long they've been divorced in particular. Bosses' secretaries are too important a part of the business to justify putting forward candidates at risk to being distracted by emotional upheavals. They have always to be at least as professionally reliable as their boss and as high-powered too, without making a lot of noise about it."

So they are not Morris Minors to their chiefs' Ferraris?

"No. Senior secretaries are Rolls-Royces."

How about not real, but only cultured pearls? To talk of them in terms of jewellery was not just hackneyed but ridiculously inappropriate. Mr Corby snapped. Top secretaries were not there for ornament. If they did their job properly they were in effect the not in name pretty senior managers. Much of their work often involved managing the boss, which not many other executives in the same business would feel equal to.

Whereupon I confronted him with the one about searchers seeking the caviare of the jobs market. What sort of fish course was his kind of agency shopping for? "Go fry yourself," he said.

TARGET
TARGET FINANCIAL
CONSULTANTS LTD

Branch Manager Oxford

Remuneration exceeding
£50,000 + Car

Our client, Target Financial Consultants, is the direct sales division of the rapidly expanding Target Group PLC.

As a result of continuing growth they seek a highly motivated professional to lead and develop an existing team.

The successful candidate will have a proven track record and at least five years' experience in the Financial Services sector. Additional requirements include first class communicative and managerial skills.

This highly rewarding and challenging role offers excellent prospects for substantial capital gain as well as a most attractive remuneration package commensurate with ability and performance.

Interested applicants should contact Charles Reeves ACII or Neil Nokes on 01-404 5751 or write to them at 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, quoting ref. 3507. Strictest confidentiality is assured.

FP

Michael Page City
International Recruitment Consultants
A member of the Addison Page PLC group

BADENOCH & CLARK

CORPORATE FINANCE

£16,500 - £35,000 + substantial benefits

We are acting on behalf of a number of clients who include some of the City's most successful Merchant Banks and Stockbrokers. As a result of continuing expansion and development of their corporate services, they seek additional Executives and Managers to join their Corporate Finance departments.

At executive level, we welcome applications from Solicitors or Chartered Accountants, aged up to 32, who are keen to make a career move. Experience of corporate finance related matters from a practice standpoint, while an obvious advantage, is not essential but candidates will be expected to demonstrate an appreciation of the nature of the work involved.

For the Managerial positions, experience within a financial institution of mergers/acquisitions and/or new issues work is essential.

OIL ANALYST - STOCKBROKING

To £30,000

Our client, a leading firm of UK Stockbrokers, is looking for a high calibre individual to join its highly rated research team.

Interested applicants should have a sound knowledge of the North Sea Oil fields, the ability to write concise research material and to disseminate information to clients and the Sales desk. Your experience should have been gained with a firm of Stockbrokers or in the Economics/Strategy Planning division of a major Oil Company.

The remuneration package will be in accordance with age and experience but will comprise a high basic element with a substantial bonus.

To discuss these positions or to find out more about our comprehensive range of opportunities in Merchant Banking, Stockbroking and Fund Management, please contact our City recruitment team — Robert Digby, Christopher Lawless or Stuart Clifford.

Financial Recruitment Specialists
16-18 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6AU
Telephone 01-583 0073

INTERNATIONAL BANKING PERSONNEL MANAGER — UK

London

From **£25,000 + Bank Benefits**

Our client is a leading US Bank with a well developed and growing presence in London, the Area centre for its operations throughout Europe, Middle East and Africa. The Bank is seeking a strong professional to head its personnel function in the UK, responsible to the General Manager.

Responsibilities will cover the full range of personnel activity for local and expatriate staff including recruitment, training, compensation and benefits and employee relations.

The successful candidate will be a graduate aged 30-40 with several years' professional experience, preferably gained within the financial sector. The position calls for disciplined administrative qualities, as well as strong interpersonal and consulting skills and an innovative approach to personnel management. The individual will be supported by strong professionals in each of the specialist areas.

Career prospects are excellent and the successful candidate must be of sufficient calibre to become Area Personnel Manager. Benefits include a subsidised mortgage to a maximum of £70,000 and a company car.

Please reply in confidence with full curriculum vitae including details of current remuneration and a daytime telephone number to D.E. SHRIBMAN.

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At Michael Page Partnership, we employ only specialist consultants to service specialist markets. This policy has helped our Banking and Finance Division to achieve very rapidly a leading position in financial sector recruitment and to

become a full Addison Page PLC subsidiary, now trading as MICHAEL PAGE CITY. Specialisation in the financial sector is only a starting point. We are further organised into tightly defined activity groups, each staffed by experienced consultants who are experts in their own fields.

Banking and Finance

Capital Markets • Lending
Forex and Money Markets
Trade and Project Finance
Instalment Credit
Contact: Jonathan Williams

Insurance

Brokers
Underwriters • Actuaries
Consultants
(Life and Pensions)
Contact: Charles Reeves

Corporate Finance & Venture Capital

Contact: Neal Wyman

Investment

Analysts • Institutional Sales
Private Client Executives
Fund Managers
Economists
Contact: Elizabeth Evans

Corporate Management

Central Executive
Personnel
Finance/Operations
Business Development
Contact: Nigel Halsey

Each specialist division comprises a team of consultants who, collectively, handle appointments from middle management to the most senior levels and tailor their recruitment service to best suit every individual assignment. If you would like a confidential

discussion about your company's requirements, your personal career or the market in general, please contact the appropriate Division or Nigel Halsey, Managing Director, Michael Page City, 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP. Telephone 01-404 5751.

FP

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A member of the Addison Page PLC group

TRENT REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT REGIONAL TREASURER

£18,462-£22,683 p.a. (under review)

based in Sheffield

A qualified accountant with considerable management experience in industry or the public service is required to head one of two major divisions of the Regional Treasurer's Department.

Duties include control of financial services and provision of financial advice in respect of the Authority's directly managed services costing £45m per annum and the Region's capital programme, totalling £70m per annum.

The successful candidate will have considerable problem-solving ability, take decisions at a high level and have interpersonal and leadership skills to manage 40 staff.

Further details and application forms from: Regional Personnel Officer, Fulwood House, Old Wood Road, Sheffield S10 2TH (tel: Sheffield 0742) 308511 ext. 384/3191, quoting ref. AR34. Closing date: 17th July 1985.

For informal discussion please contact Mr. K. Punt, Regional Treasurer, on extension 225.

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Bermuda

Investment Manager/ Treasurer

A challenging and interesting vacancy has arisen with our Client, a major International Insurance Company. They seek an experienced International Fixed Interest Fund Manager for their off-shore reinsurance operation based in Bermuda.

The person appointed will be responsible for managing/supervising all the investment and Treasury activities of the Company. A knowledge of the following would therefore be a considerable advantage: Bar • ing; International Corporate Finance; Fixed Income Markets and Instruments; Euro and Foreign Markets; Foreign Exchange principles, together with experience of computer-based Portfolio Management and Cash systems.

The person appointed is likely to be between 28-35 and educated to MBA or equivalent level. The appointment is likely to be for an initial period of 2-3 years, with excellent prospects for the right candidate.

Salary, which is negotiable in line with age and experience, will be free of tax and there are excellent benefits.

Please write in confidence to Caroline Magnus, quoting Ref. 656, at Overton Shirley & Barry, Prince Rupert House, 64 Queen Street, London EC4R 1AD. Telephone: 01-248 0355.

Overton Shirley & Barry
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH AND SELECTION CONSULTANTS

Euro-FRNs/Straight Bonds

BOND SALES & TRADING

c.£30,000 negotiable

Our client is the merchant banking arm of a major international bank, with an impressive record in the management, underwriting and trading of securities in the international capital markets.

Rapid expansion has created opportunities for two ambitious capital markets professionals to join the company at senior level, creating two-way business with the investing community and the professional market.

These appointments would suit individuals aged mid 20s/mid 30s who have been active in either FRNs or Straights in the Eurobond market for upwards of one year, and who have the ability to operate on their own initiative in a worldwide investment and commercial banking network.

Our client offers immediate challenge, excellent future career potential and a negotiable remuneration package in line with best investment banking practice.

Please contact Ken Anderson in confidence on 01-588 6644

Anderson, Squires Ltd
Bank Recruitment Specialists
127 Cheapside,
London EC2V 6BU

Anderson, Squires

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OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SUCCESSFUL

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We are a young, dynamic company based in the sales, marketing and distribution of contemporary crystal, jewellery and quality gifts. We are currently seeking experienced sales representatives to sell our products throughout the country. Successful applicants will have a good track record, above average, and the confidence to sell. The position offers a competitive salary, with a bonus and a car. The successful candidate will be based in London, and will have a successful background in sales.

KEY ACCOUNTS MANAGER
We require an exceptional man or woman as National Key Accounts Manager, who will need to be responsible, quick thinking and meticulous. The successful person will receive a Bar 10 credit + bonus on an agreed % of sales. A record of achievement which reflects an outstanding degree of self-motivation, ambition and serious, serious qualities is necessary to make a considerable impact on our team and our sales.

You will be responsible for negotiating and maximizing sales with major existing major key accounts and positively contributing to the development of new business and new marketing ideas. This position requires you to live within 50 miles of London and to be available for travel.

We offer a competitive salary, commission, bonus, car, expenses, and a pension scheme. Applications in confidence with full CV and a statement "Why we should consider you" to be sent in writing to: The Managing Director, Barbeco Limited, Goldwell House, Bath Road, Newbury, Berkshire, RG13 1JH.

Financial Controller

Bogota
package c.£30,000

British-based multi-national group with very substantial export and overseas earnings, seeks a Financial Controller to fill the top finance post in one of its major subsidiaries, which is engaged in both manufacturing and service operations in Colombia, South America.

In addition to wide-ranging functional responsibilities the Controller is a key member of the local management team and will be expected to contribute towards the development of company strategy. He will also be required to maintain close reporting links with Group headquarters in London. This appointment will be for 3-5 years. Opportunities exist for further career moves within the Group either in the UK or overseas.

Candidates, probably aged 35-38, will be ACA or ACMA with a proven record of financial management, including data processing and Treasury exposure. Previous overseas experience is desirable. Fluency in Spanish, self-motivation and commercial flair are essential.

For full job description write in confidence to W.T. Agar at JC&P Selection Consultants, 104 Marylebone Lane, London W1M 5PU, showing clearly how you meet our client's requirements, quoting 2229/FT.

JC&P

John Courtis and Partners

Banking Ombudsman

Seventeen High Street Banks have formulated proposals for a Banking Ombudsman. Appointment will be by, and responsibility to, an independent Council.

• THE ROLE in essence will be to act as independent arbiter in respect of complaints from individuals arising from the banking/customer relationship. The administration and financial control of a small office will also be involved.

• PREREQUISITES are a strong legal background and the authority and personal stature successfully to achieve settlements in issues of widely differing degrees of complexity in a position of high public exposure. The essential absence of bias will preclude significant prior connection with the banking industry.

• MATURITY will be an asset. Terms are flexible and for discussion. Base London. The appointment is open to men or women.

Those wishing to be considered or to make nominations are invited to write in complete confidence to R. T. Addis as adviser on this appointment.

TYZACK
PARTNERS LIMITED

10 Hallam Street, London, W1N 6DL. Telephone: 01-580 2924

Investment Analysis/ Fund Management

Greenfield Opportunities
£17,500 to £25,000 package

Our client, an insurance company with rapidly growing assets under management, currently approaching the £1bn level, seeks two ambitious analysts who wish to progress to fund management within a small and newly established investment team.

Candidates, probably graduates, will have had three to five years' experience of U.K. or international equity analysis, gained within a stockbroker or another investing institution. The successful individuals should possess the potential to assume full fund management responsibility within the short to medium term.

The positions involve analysing either U.K. or Overseas equities and include close involvement in the fund management process. It is anticipated that the right candidates will take total fund management responsibility for certain areas within a maximum of two years. These are exceptional opportunities to join an expanding organisation at the outset of their new investment team.

Please contact Stephen Embleton, in strictest confidence, at the Investment Division, 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP. Telephone 01-404 5751.

TP

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Marketing Financial Institutions

Our client, a prime New York bank is currently expanding its specialist team which deals with a wide spectrum of UK based financial institutions.

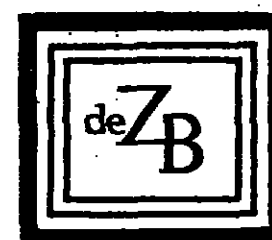
An experienced marketing executive is currently required, at Assistant Vice President level, to be responsible for:

- ★ An industry sector within the financial institutions' group
- ★ Developing and maintaining existing relationships
- ★ Expanding business potential

The remuneration package will be attractive and is negotiable depending on age and experience. Interested applicants, with a mature, imaginative but aggressive approach, should contact Christopher Smith on 01-404 5751 or write to him at the Banking and Finance Division, 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, quoting ref. 3511.

TP

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INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

In line with our international expansion, we are forming a new London-based team to co-ordinate our international research capabilities.

Its tasks will include the publication of a monthly global investment review, involving both original economic/market research and the editorial supervision of contributions from our UK and overseas research departments.

The current vacancy is for an unusually well qualified individual in his/her mid-late 20's, with a high level of economic and financial literacy. He/she will probably have a good economics background, and experience of financial markets acquired as an analyst, fund manager, or financial journalist. The brief is however very wide, and the position may be attractive for a late entrant into the securities industry from a business school or the civil service.

A certain amount of overseas travel will be involved. The remuneration will reflect the importance we attach to this new position, which offers excellent prospects of career development.

Apply in confidence to:

A. P. Thompson
de Zoete & Bevan
25 Finsbury Circus
London EC2M 7EE

MARKET PLANNING MANAGER

Package negotiable £17,500-£22,500 plus car

Our Client is a successful Consumer Finance organisation based in the Western Home Counties. Resulting from a change of strategy, they have decided to set up a specialist Marketing function and are now seeking a Market Planning Manager.

Your role will primarily cover internal and external market analyses with a view to rationalising existing products (and proposing new) identifying target markets and developing delivery systems.

To succeed in this challenging role you will probably be a graduate/MBA with a well rounded, proven marketing track record. Your experience must have included market research and product development in Consumer Finance or related industries. Self motivated and committed, you must be able to demonstrate excellent communications and leadership skills.

Our clients offer a generous benefits package including, where necessary, a relocation allowance.

Please write quoting ref: 137 or telephone Reading (0734) 508456 for an application form and position profile.

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Private Client Executives who would be happier managing their portfolios on a more personal basis, as part of our expanding Private Clients Department, are encouraged to write or telephone, in confidence to:—

Nicholas Langley,
R. Nivison & Co.
25, Austin Friars,
London EC2N 2JB
Telephone: 01-588 7244

EUROBOND DEALER c £30,000 + Bank Benefits London	A major European Bank requires an experienced seller of Eurobonds with solid contacts in Investment Companies, Pension Funds and Insurance Companies. Applicants should have a sound knowledge of market trends and be enthusiastic, determined and self motivated. Fluency in French would also be advantageous. Career prospects are excellent within an expanding operation. Ref: DES
ACCOUNT OFFICERS £20,000 - £30,000 + Bank Benefits London	A major U.S. Bank seeks graduate or AIB bankers aged 25-35 with at least two years experience in international banking, sound credit and marketing skills and the knowledge and personality to market a wide range of the bank's products. Candidates should have the potential to progress quickly within a dynamic environment. Ref: DES
DEPUTY CHIEF ACCOUNTANT £16,000 + Car West End	A prestigious manufacturing and retailing group seeks a flexible thinking and commercially orientated individual to take charge of all statutory and period reporting, related administration and the effective direction of financial staff. An attractive benefits package combined with influential responsibility in a high profile sector where early achievement will be generously rewarded. Ref: JFH
BOARD POTENTIAL c £15,000 + Benefits S. W. London	With the intention of obtaining a USM listing inside 3 years, our client, a very successful trading/distribution organisation, offers an unparalleled opportunity to a newly qualified and imaginative Accountant with the ability to implement strict financial control procedures. An effective contribution will warrant a Directorship and related earnings. Ref: JFH
PROJECT ACCOUNTANT c £15,000 N. W. London	A consultancy style role created to facilitate the improvement of financial systems, provide a comprehensive management reporting service and assist in the implementation of group strategies. Ideally suited to a Chartered Accountant with varied post and pre-qualification experience. This consumer goods group anticipates early promotion into a line management role. Ref: JFH
TREASURY ACCOUNTANT To £15,000 S. London	An enterprising, recently qualified, accountant with a sound accountancy training is sought to join this successful and autonomous subsidiary of a leading "Blue Chip" group. Personality and an interest in commercial decision making are of key importance to the role which offers full involvement at general management levels. In all day to day matters. Ref: MJH

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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with effect from Monday 24th June 1985.

Our telephone number,
01-588 6644, is unchanged.

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Bank Recruitment Specialists
127 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BU **Anderson, Squires**

Manager/Company Secretary

City

c £15,000

For trust funds involving several £ million. The appointee will initially understudy the present manager prior to retirement, later taking over the full administration of the Trust and statutory duties as Secretary, responsible to the Directors. Duties will include liaison with stockbrokers, handling securities, overseeing the accounting function and its computerisation, property and insurance.

Candidates, male or female and aged 35 to 50, should preferably have experience of: * trust accounts or accounting, gained possibly with stockbrokers or other City institutions

* office management
Formal qualifications not required. Starting salary c£15,000; non-contributory pension and other benefits.

Please write in confidence to the Trust's advisor, RK Gorrings, at 25 New Street Square, London EC4A 3LN.



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BRISTOL 0272 277315 30 Baldwin Street.
EDINBURGH 031-226 5680 47a George Street.
LEEDS 0532-459243 12 St. Paul's Street.

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INTERNATIONAL BANKING

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Excellent, dynamic, experienced, has an excellent career opportunity for a Senior Manager to join its Capital Markets Division and to assume wider responsibilities within Corporate Finance at a senior level. Candidates are likely to be graduates, aged under 35 years, with sound Capital Markets experience, who have the ability to manage a department involved in the promotion and placement of Capital Market products. Further experience within the secondary markets would be a distinct advantage.

Contact: Leslie Squires

BOND SALES
Progressive
merchant bank
to £40,000

A top London based merchant bank, has a prominent position in the bond market and is seeking a highly motivated and experienced salesperson to join its team. The position involves the sale of a wide range of government and corporate bonds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and maintenance of a client base and for the achievement of sales targets. The position offers a competitive salary and a progressive career path.

Contact: Leslie Squires

Anderson, Squires Ltd., Bank Recruitment Specialists
127 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BUCORPORATE
TREASURERS
A move into banking
c.£20-30,000 + Car

This opportunity, with a prestigious U.S. bank, is an opportunity to move from a treasury department in industry to commercial banking and to assume wider responsibilities within Corporate Finance at a senior level. Candidates are likely to be graduates, aged under 35 years, with sound Corporate Finance experience, who have the ability to manage a department involved in the promotion and placement of Corporate Finance products. Further experience within the secondary markets would be a distinct advantage.

Contact: Kevin Byrne

CORPORATE F.X.
DEALERS
(Major bank in new venture)
£15,000-£30,000

One of the largest banking institutions in the City is merging its investment banking, corporate finance and treasury activities into a new venture. The new venture is seeking a highly motivated and experienced salesperson to join its team. The position involves the sale of a wide range of government and corporate bonds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and maintenance of a client base and for the achievement of sales targets. The position offers a competitive salary and a progressive career path.

Contact: Kevin Byrne

YOUNG COMMERCIAL
BANKERS
"Cross over" to
Merchant Banking

Our client is a top right merchant bank with an enviable reputation for its expertise in a wide range of commercial banking services. The bank is seeking a highly motivated and experienced salesperson to join its team. The position involves the sale of a wide range of government and corporate bonds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and maintenance of a client base and for the achievement of sales targets. The position offers a competitive salary and a progressive career path.

Contact: Kevin Byrne

A.C.A. —
CORPORATE FINANCE
c.£17,000

Our client is a leading merchant bank with an extensive overseas network and a reputation as a highly successful bank in corporate finance. The bank is seeking a highly motivated and experienced salesperson to join its team. The position involves the sale of a wide range of government and corporate bonds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and maintenance of a client base and for the achievement of sales targets. The position offers a competitive salary and a progressive career path.

Contact: Kevin Byrne

YOUNG CREDIT
ANALYST
(Marketing Potential)
c.£15,000

A prime US bank seeks an ambitious young Credit Analyst to move into its Credit Department. The role will involve a high level of corporate analysis and a comprehensive degree of client contact. Candidates should have a sound academic background and a background of at least two years in credit (preferably US based). The position offers a competitive salary and a progressive career path.

Contact: Sarah Beaumont

BANKING IN WALES
£9-11,000

A recognised and expanding UK bank, providing a wide range of banking services to commercial enterprises and the general public, wishes to appoint a Sub-Manager to a new branch in Cardiff. Candidates are likely to be graduates with a degree in a relevant subject. The position offers a competitive salary and a progressive career path.

Contact: Ken Anderson

01-588 6644

Anderson, Squires

ASSISTANT TREASURY
MANAGER

A challenging role has arisen within the Treasury Department of Armstrong World Industries, the wholly owned British subsidiary of a progressive U.S. multi-national. The company manufactures flooring, ceiling and insulation products and has an established reputation for quality and service.

Reporting to the Treasury Manager, this is an ideal opportunity for a self motivated and ambitious person to move into the treasury function, which includes management of currency exposures, cash management and control of banking relationships and a chance to gain experience in foreign exchange.

The ideal candidate aged 20-35 years will have at least 3 years' accountancy or treasury experience, and be studying for an accountancy qualification.

This position offers good career prospects, an attractive salary with further performance related salary progression, a non-contributory pension scheme and other benefits associated with a large multi-national company.

For application form and further details please phone

Ms. Jackie Mills (Personnel Officer) Armstrong World Industries,
Armstrong House, 3 Chequers Square, Uxbridge,
Middlesex UB8 1NG Tel: (0695) 51122

Armstrong

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Banking

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HongkongBank, one of the world's leading international banks, requires an experienced executive to fill the position of Assistant Manager Computer Audit in its Hong Kong Head Office. This is an exceptional career opportunity and the successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the computer audit function.

Advanced and progressive systems in use and under development, including electronic banking and a global telecommunications network, provide a challenging working environment. Principal functions of the Computer Audit Division are as follows:

- Monitoring of systems under development and advising on control implications
- Auditing installations and systems
- Development of audit software and integrated audit programmes

The Assistant Manager will be involved in the day to day running of the division and will deputise for the Manager in his absence. In addition the successful applicant will manage complex audit assignments and systems reviews which could involve up to 15% travel overseas, mainly in the Asia Pacific region.

Candidates should demonstrate a high level of technical expertise as well as having well developed audit skills. Knowledge of banking applications will be a distinct advantage, as will familiarity with IBM mainframe and mini computers.

The preferred candidate is likely to be a qualified chartered accountant, or else have a background in computer audit, management consultancy or system design with a proven track record. Essential personal qualities include excellent communication skills, management ability and a capacity to generate innovative ideas.

Conditions of service are excellent. In addition to the tax-paid salary indicated, benefits include free fully furnished accommodation, a housing loan, six weeks' annual leave with a generous travel package, children's education allowance and holiday passages. An appropriate increment in salary will be given on promotion to Manager Computer Audit. There will be an initial two year contract which may be converted to permanent employment by mutual agreement.

Please telephone or write for an application form by 10 July 1985 to:

International Recruitment Officer
The Hongkong Bank Group
99 Bishopsgate
London EC2P 2LA
Tel: 01-638 2366 ext. 2922

HongkongBank
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Market and Sell
Private Banking Services

At present you are frustrated because your banking or investment knowledge is not properly rewarded. This knowledge will ideally, but not necessarily, have been gained from direct work experience. You are aged 35 to 50, lucid, ambitious and impatient to fully demonstrate your potential. You are a positive and sophisticated marketing person, well connected and able to influence existing contacts while identifying and harnessing new ones.

This privately owned bank with impeccable credentials looks for a marketing executive to build and spearhead a strong and profitable marketing operation. The bank was acquired in London by European interests in 1982 since when there has been an injection of capital and the recruitment of decisive executives. The operation is now

prepared for growth. The product range centres on the provision of private banking and investment management facilities for higher net worth individuals.

As a vital part of the private banking division your task will be to build on, and multiply, the present client base and you must demonstrably be able to achieve these objectives.

The remuneration package will be an amalgam of salary and incentives plus banking benefits, pension scheme and a car. If you meet these requirements and wish to proceed, please write to Derek Cox of Cripps, Sears and Associates Limited, Personnel Management Consultants, 88/89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LH. Telephone: 01-404 5701.

Cripps, Sears

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of the same calibre

At Providence Capital, we recognise that few successful business

people have time enough during the busy working day to think seriously about corporate investment. We also recognise that as one of Britain's most dynamic and fastest-growing insurance companies, with a powerful record of achievement in investment of all kinds, we're in an unrivalled position to assume that responsibility on their behalf.

To capitalise substantially on this market sector, we're creating a small team of high-calibre Life Sales Associates, whose task it will be to advise senior executives on their financial investment options, on their own ground and in their own language, skillfully parrying the difficult questions they are likely to pose - and demand rapid, informed answers to.

It may sound an exceptionally tough brief. It is - yet it also promises to be a highly

lucrative one: both of which are prime reasons why you'll want to be part of this major initiative in a highly competitive market place.

And you can be so, if you already possess the rare mix of business acumen, energy, mental agility and sheer market presence that will be essential to your success - and our own. We will naturally complement these personal qualities and skills with a comprehensive training programme and product range renowned for their quality, innovation and high performance - and the market support and security that can only come from belonging to a £2 billion corporation.

For more information about these key appointments - and about the equally high-calibre performance-related packages that accompany them, write with CV to: Wendy Newman, (Ref: 346), Whites Bull Holmes Ltd., 63-65 St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4JX.

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FACT: There are more executives seeking top jobs than there are jobs available.

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London is the executive recruitment centre for the English speaking world. Through our network of contacts, information systems and technology, over 80% of our clients have identified unadvertised vacancies.

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Connaught

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OIL TRADER

A small oil trading group requires a crude and petroleum products trader

Applicants should have 10 to 15 years experience of the oil industry with at least the last 5 years in a commercial/trading position.

A sound knowledge of the European market is essential, while familiarity with the U.S. and Far East markets would be an advantage.

The remuneration is negotiable but will reflect the experience of the successful applicant.

Please forward a comprehensive C.V. and photograph (returnable) to Box A 777, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, London EC3P 4BY

Bonds Market Expertise
A high-growth marketing application
Based in Central London Up to £25,000 + car

You are probably already aware of the importance that Reuters' information services have in today's business world. In your particular field - the Bonds Market - our deployment of advanced communications technology continues to make a major impact. Reuters now provides a database of relevant historic information as well as real-time information and has recently developed and successfully marketed a vital Bonds Dealing Service.

Candidates should have at least 3 years' experience in the Bonds Market, with a knowledge of Eurobonds, Gilts, UK Corporate bonds and ideally the fixed interest market. Reuters position in the financial markets is already well established and subscriptions to the Bonds services contribute substantially to total revenue.

As Assistant Market Manager, Bonds, you will play an important part in continuing the growth - evaluating the performance of existing products, researching the markets, defining and launching new products, and promoting and publicising the full Bond product range. In short, providing full support to the Bonds Market Manager.

Probably aged between 27-35, and a graduate, your interest in market developments and the application of new technology will form the basis of your success as a 'creative thinker'. In addition, the necessity for accurate, concise report-writing and effective communication with senior management within and outside Reuters will demand a combination of sound administrative and interpersonal skills, and enthusiasm.

If you meet these requirements the scope for your personal career development will match that of ours in the market. Some international travel will be required. As well as an attractive salary and car, we offer a competitive benefits package including six weeks annual leave, free BUPA cover, and subsidised restaurant.

Please write with full career details or telephone 01-353 7329 (24 hour answering service), to The Recruitment Executive.

REUTERS,
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INTERNATIONAL
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We seek applications from highly motivated Graduates, MBA's or ACA's, aged 29-33, who have enjoyed successful careers to date, gained within Banking, Management Consultancy, or those approaching Partnership Level, in a "Top 8" Accountancy practice. Vacancies exist in the following highly specialised functions:-

Capital Markets	£30 — £60,000
Corporate Finance (European M&A)	£40 — £70,000
Aircraft Finance	£25 — £50,000
Cross Border Asset Finance/Big Ticket Leasing	£30 — £50,000
Sales Aid/Vendor Programmes	£30 — £50,000
IBM Computer Lease Marketing	£25 — £50,000
International Taxation	£25 — £40,000

The above salary packages are negotiable; and will not be a deciding factor.

For the above vacancies please contact Brian Gooch or Peter Haynes

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.
JONATHAN WREN & CO. LIMITED
170 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4LX. Tel: 01-623 1266

Jonathan
Wren
RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANTS

Corporate Finance

Excellent Career Prospects in Merchant Banking

First Interstate Limited, the merchant bank subsidiary of First Interstate Bancorp (the eighth largest U.S. Banking group) is seeking a highly-motivated individual to join its expanding Corporate Finance Group.

The successful applicant, who is likely to have legal experience, will join a small team which is responsible for all the products of the Corporate Finance Group, from mandate through to closing. These products include eurobonds, euro notes, interest rate and currency swaps,

syndicated credits, private placements, and other capital market instruments. He or she will also assist the bank's marketing specialists in the preparation of proposals at the pre-mandate stage.

The position offers a highly competitive compensation package, which will include all usual banking benefits, and excellent prospects of further development within a merchant banking environment.

Interested applicants should write, enclosing a full curriculum

vita, to: Sharon Ayre, Personnel Officer, First Interstate Limited, 162 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4BS. (Tel: 01-236 5292)



Head of Corporate Finance

Development Capital Corporation Limited (DCC) is a leading Dublin based International Venture Capital company and is an Issuing House which provides corporate finance services to a wide range of clients.

The company, which was established in 1976, has substantial backing from both Irish and United Kingdom Institutions and has recently been involved in the successful flotation of a number of Irish companies on the London Stock Market.

The requirement is for a Senior Corporate Financier to head up a new subsidiary, DCC Corporate Finance Limited, which in addition to undertaking New Issues and Private Placements, will advise on Acquisitions, Mergers, Disposals and Management Buyouts.

The successful applicant will have had several years' corporate finance experience in a merchant bank or a stockbroking firm or the accountancy profession and will be able to demonstrate excellent business development abilities and technical skills together with a high level of motivation.

The remuneration package, which will include a sizeable profits related bonus, will be designed to attract the right candidate.

Interested applicants should write, enclosing a detailed curriculum vitae, to Neal Wyman BSc ACA, Manager, Corporate Finance Division, 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP or telephone him on 01-404 5751, quoting ref 7764.



Michael Page City
International Recruitment Consultants
A member of the Addison Page PLC group

Systems Marketing

City

The development of a data network system for insurance and financial service clients, the first stage of which was launched in March this year, is an important expansion of the Public Data Network and represents yet another key facility provided by British Telecom.

Marketing Executives to £16K

To spearhead the expansion of this new service, we require six marketing professionals for the retail insurance markets and the London insurance and capital markets. The role is wide ranging covering market research, the identification of consumer requirements, the development of marketing and sales plans, presentations and promotional activities. Support will be available from the sales and central marketing services.

These are exceptional opportunities for men or women wishing to widen their experience within

this developing field. Future prospects are excellent. Candidates, probably in their late 20's must be experienced in marketing to or within the insurance or financial services sectors. A knowledge of Lloyd's would be very useful. A degree or membership of a relevant professional institution is essential.

Sales Support to £13K

There are three openings for marketing or business studies graduates with knowledge of financial services and familiarity with computers, to assist in preparing sales and marketing plans and to give support to the sales force.

Please apply, in confidence, quoting Ref. 171/3/FT to the Consultants advising on these appointments, Charles Barker Management Selection International Ltd, 30 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4EA. Telephone 01-634 1148.

CHARLES BARKER
SELECTION · SEARCH · ADVERTISING

Organise and Run FX Settlements

The London Branch of an international banking and finance group now employs 25 staff in four areas: commercial lending, securities, administration and foreign exchange and money market transactions. There are currently three dealers supported by a back-up section containing four staff.

The continued growth of dealing activities, computerisation and a move towards the streamlining of operations creates the need for a supervisor designate to gradually take over the running of the settlements department.

Aged 24-30, you will have 3-4 years experience of foreign exchange back-up procedures and you will have a sound

understanding of money market transactions. Ideally you will be familiar with computer operations and will understand the applications of computer software. Meticulous and well organised you enjoy developing and guiding other members of staff.

If you seek the chance to run your own department in a secure and developing environment with a starting salary of £15,000 plus the normal banking benefits, please write, in confidence, enclosing a CV to Paula Haldane of Cripps, Sears & Associates Limited, Personnel Management Consultants, 88/89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6JL. Tel: 01-404 5701.

Cripps, Sears

Mergers & Acquisitions Manager

As a result of rapid expansion and diversification we are looking for a business graduate aged between 26 and 30 to join our Corporate Finance Department as a Mergers and Acquisitions Manager. The work will involve:

- Liaising with potential acquirers and disposers of companies, and intermediaries, with a view to earning fees from the purchase or sale of businesses.
- Assisting client companies to clarify their strategic objectives and formulate investment strategies based thereon.
- Carrying out surveys of industrial sectors to identify acquisition targets, contacting these, arranging introductions and advising on negotiations.
- Assisting partners in other parts of the firm with the preparation of acquisition or disposal plans and in bringing these to a successful conclusion.
- International liaison with other M&A services of Coopers & Lybrand.

You will report to the Associate Director in overall charge of this area of activity. We are looking for an MBA from a leading business school with 2 or 3 years' acquisitions experience in industry and/or the City. An outgoing personality combined with a high level of literacy and numeracy are essential, as is a familiarity with computers.

Prospects and salary are excellent for the right candidate.

Please write with career details to Piers Eley in confidence at:

Coopers & Lybrand
Chesterfield House
Bloomsbury Way
London WC1A 2TP

For business committed to growth.



Management Consultants

The City

We assist clients in the financial sector to manage strategic change and resolve pressing human resource issues. A high proportion of our work involves planning and implementing large-scale organisation change and all aspects of personnel and remuneration policy. The focus of our operations is the City, although our work also involves other international financial centres.

HAY-MSL is growing rapidly. The link recently established with Saatchi and Saatchi PricewaterhouseCoopers is adding momentum to this growth. It also enables us to offer our clients a unique portfolio of corporate services.

We currently need additional consultants in:

- Strategic Management
- Assessment, Training and Development
- Reward Management
- Employee Communications
- Career Consultancy

Candidates will be in their 30's (except for the career consultancy post, for which an older candidate would be acceptable), have a good honours degree, and ideally a second qualification. There will be firm evidence of success in the financial service sector - in a senior role in either general or functional management. A thorough familiarity with the City is essential.

We offer a high base salary, car and free BUPA - plus a substantial profit-share based on company performance.

Please write - in confidence - with full details, giving (if possible) a day-time telephone number and quoting reference B.15910 to Colin Bexon, HAY-MSL Management Consultants Group Limited, 1st Floor, 40/42 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6JJ.

These appointments are open to men and women.

International Banking Consultant

C. £35,000 plus car

Central London

GEISCO is the information services division of General Electric (USA). Its computer services operations span 25 countries all interconnected via the world's largest commercial teleprocessing network which enables GEISCO to bring a unique international dimension to its business systems consultancy.

The International Banking, Marketing and Support Group based in London is responsible for providing sales support and product development to the International Banking environment. Their services provide a diverse range of banking systems from front line customer services to internal control and management systems. The clients are the world's leading international banks.

To provide for increasing demands made on the International Banking Group, GEISCO is seeking an additional International Banking Consultant.

to provide banking support in the client environment and work on the development of current and future products. Applicants will ideally have 10 or more years experience of main stream banking. Their experience will include foreign exchange, exposure management, EFT, treasury management and automated systems. Experience of marketing, although not a requirement, would be a distinct advantage. The ability to communicate effectively at all levels in the client environment is essential.

Present international travel is a requirement of the position.

Applicants are invited to write in the first instance, giving full career details to John Selinger, quoting ref. H2300. All replies will be treated in strict confidence.

*Not connected with the General Electric Company Plc of England.

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Management Consultants

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As part of its continuing growth strategy a major American Bank is seeking to fill a newly created post which will have responsibility for researching, developing and marketing tax related financial products throughout Europe, in co-ordination with the Bank's International Capital Markets staff. The position, based in London, reports to the Manager, European Products. The successful candidate will be a graduate, in their early to mid 30's, and have a minimum of 7 years experience of handling such areas as leasing, zero coupon bonds, cross-border financing transactions, etc., on a European basis. This experience is most likely to have been gained with a financial institution or possibly within the legal or accountancy professions. A sound working knowledge

of both European tax regulations and local country tax incentive schemes is essential together with strong interpersonal skills and the determination to succeed within a results orientated environment. Although London based, some European travel will be necessary.

In addition to a salary of c.£30,000 there is a significant individual incentive scheme together with the benefits to be expected from one of the World's leading international banks.

Please reply in complete confidence, enclosing full career details, quoting reference 1018, to Tony Smith, Director, Bull Thompson and Associates Limited, Alliance House, 63 St. Martin's Lane, London, WC2N 4JX, who is advising on this appointment.

Bull Thompson

CORPORATE AND RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ECONOMIST

Salary around £15,000

Halifax Building Society wishes to recruit an Economist for its Central Planning and Research Group based at Head Office in Halifax.

The financial services industry faces a challenging and exciting future. As the nation's leading building society, the Halifax must ensure it has the skills to shape its own future successfully. The person appointed will contribute to a comprehensive economic analysis, forecasting and information service to senior management at Halifax and to its national network of almost 700 branches.

Applicants must have at least a good first degree in Economics with a minimum of three years applied economics experience, preferably within the financial services sector. The ability to communicate well with all management levels is essential.

The post carries a full range of benefits including the provision of a car, contributory pension scheme, life assurance, BUPA and staff mortgage facilities.

To apply please send a full CV marked 'Private' to: D. C. Laughlan, ACS, ACES, General Manager, Personnel and Services, Halifax Building Society, P.O. Box 60, Trinity Road, Halifax HX1 2RG.

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PRIVATE CLIENT STOCKBROKERS

The private client division of Laing & Cruickshank is amongst the largest in the United Kingdom. Backed by the highest quality research and a modern 'in-house' computer system, executives once proven, are encouraged to operate with the minimum of supervision and are not investment directed.

General expansion both in London and elsewhere, and growth in the client base, has resulted in a need to recruit additional people currently in their twenties. If you have at least three years' experience advising individuals on investment and have a good educational background, ideally including having passed The Stock Exchange exam, and would like to explore this opportunity, please write in confidence enclosing a full cv to:

R.H. White, David Sheppard and Partners Limited,
21 Cleveland Place, London SW1Y 6RL
(Tel: 01-690 8786),
who act as advisers to the firm.

INVESTMENT CONSULTANT FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPANY

Attractive financial package with equity prospects.

A thriving financial services company in Kent is seeking an additional Consultant to join its growing management team.

This is an unusual opportunity to work out of London for a highly computerised and successful company, with both UK and offshore funds under management.

Candidates, aged 25 - 35, must be ambitious and good communicators and should expect to earn a package of £20 - £25,000 in the first year. Preference will be given to candidates having a legal and/or accounting background with an interest in and experience of portfolio management and financial planning.

Please apply in confidence to I. H. Willis:
IAN WILLIS ASSOCIATES LTD.
Executive Selection Consultants
16 Regency Street, London SW1P 4DD.
Tel: 01-821 6543 or 01-821 6229.

BADENOCH & CLARK**CAPITAL MARKETS -
PRODUCT
DEVELOPMENT**

£Negotiable

A major force in the Eurobond market is seeking to recruit several high-calibre executives to work as staff members in the Product and Business Development Division.

Liaising closely with the Corporate Finance Department and Trading desk, the successful candidates should have a sound knowledge of sophisticated products including swap transactions.

Duties will include pricing of items for New Issues and co-ordination of the distribution network together with some syndications work.

Our client is strongly placed in the International Capital Markets and this represents an outstanding opportunity to consolidate a career in investment banking. A substantial remuneration package is envisaged for candidates with an appropriate depth of experience.

For further details, please contact our City recruitment team - **Robert Digby, Christopher Lawless or Stuart Clifford** - to arrange an informal and confidential discussion.

Financial Recruitment Specialists
16-18 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6AU
Telephone 01-583 0073

**Industrial Economist
Industrial Bank of Yemen
Yemen Arab Republic**

An Industrial Economist is required to develop and initiate systems to provide management with information enabling them to monitor, control, review and evaluate projects contained within the Bank's portfolio.

Other duties include advising on training needs for staff working within the department, and also on improvements to project preparation.

Applicants should be British Citizens with an engineering background and a degree in Industrial Economics. Five to ten years project follow-up experience, preferably gained in a developing country, is desirable, as is a knowledge of Arabic.

The appointment is on contract to ODA on loan to the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic for a period of two years. Salary (UK taxable) is in the range £18,000 to £24,000 pa, including an element in lieu of superannuation. A variable tax-free Foreign Service Allowance, currently in the range £4,000 to £5,000 pa, is also payable.

The post is wholly financed by the British Government under Britain's programme of Aid to the developing countries. Other benefits normally include paid leave, free family passage, children's education allowances, free accommodation and medical attention.

For full details and application form, please apply, quoting ref. AR300-AT/PT, stating post concerned and giving details of age, qualifications and experience to: Appointment Officer, Overseas Development Administration, Room 361, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, EAST KILBRIDE, Glasgow G75 8EA.

**OVERSEAS
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Britain helping nations to help themselves

CREDIT DU NORD**LONDON BRANCH**

is seeking a Dealer, with at least three years' all-round experience, to join its active and expanding Dealing Room.

The main responsibility will be to trade the Euro-Dollar Deposit book. A knowledge of C.D.s-F.R.A.s, and Financial Futures would be a great advantage.

Salary is negotiable together with a good package of benefits including non-contributory pension scheme.

Please write in confidence enclosing your c.v. to:-

Mr. M. C. Barr, Treasury Manager
Credit du Nord
10 Old Jewry, London EC2R 8DU

A PRIVATE CLIENT BUSINESS

We are a renowned manufacturer and supplier of the highest quality products, specialising in a traditional London trade, and we require a person with experience in dealing with important private clients to work in the West End of London.

We need someone who has the ability to deal with a wide range of international clients, who can identify trading opportunities and who will negotiate the purchase and sale of products of excellence.

The successful candidate will report to the Managing Director and direct a small team of experienced valuers and salesmen. Leading from the front, he will make a direct contribution to company profitability and cash management.

Previous experience in valuing high-quality goods and success in selling goods and services to individuals is important. Knowledge of investment and insurance services will be a distinct advantage, as will an appreciation and interest in works of art. A sympathy with, and personal interest in, field sports is most desirable.

Preferred age over 40. Salary about £20,000

Please write in complete confidence, and with personal career details to Box A9054, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY

City Division

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Eurobond Sales	£25-30,000
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Trade Finance Officer	£neg
Eurobond Settlements	£15-18,000
Capital Markets	c£18,000
Personnel: Benefits	c£15,000
Research Exec.: N. America	c£15,000
Marketing Officer	c£13,000

City Division

The International Business Centre
2 London Wall Buildings, London Wall, London EC2M 5PP.
Telephone 01 623 4200 Ext 288/7/6
Recruitment Consultants

**Which?
Financial Research
Management**

Central London

to £17,000

Consumers' Association exists to help consumers - by publishing its magazines and books and through campaigns on behalf of the consumer interest. The Money Group researches and presents financial information, primarily on family finance, for publication and to support campaigns.

You will manage eleven staff - mainly graduates - in the Money Group, leading a highly professional young research team to ensure that projects meet tight deadlines and high standards of presentation and accuracy. Contacts must be developed within the fast-moving financial world and ideas generated for new money subjects and new outputs for the Group's work.

Probably aged 25 to 35, you should be a numerate and articulate graduate with several years' experience of conducting your own research, ideally on financial or economic subjects, and proven leadership skills. A demonstrable interest in the personal finance area is essential, as is a flexibility and sense of urgency combined with an attention to detail. Any journalistic skills would be an advantage.

In the first instance please write - in confidence - with full career and salary details to Peter Evans ref. S.49295.

This appointment is open to men and women.

HAY-MSL Selection and Advertising Limited,
52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AW
Offices in Europe, the Americas, Africa, Australasia and Asia Pacific.

HAY-MSL

MANAGEMENT SELECTION

**MERCHANT BANKING
INVESTMENT FUND MANAGERS**

Several of our Merchant Banking clients wish to expand and strengthen their Investment Departments in the Management of both Private Clients' and Pension Funds. Candidates aged between 25/35 years, will be Graduates with several years' experience of UK and/or North American Equity Markets, gained with a Merchant Bank, Stockbroker or Financial Institution.

Highly competitive remuneration packages will be offered, together with the usual banking benefits.

CORPORATE FINANCE

Due to increasing demand for the services of its Corporate Finance Department our client, an Accepting House, wishes to recruit two additional Executives.

Applicants should be aged 25 to 29, have a good degree and hold a professional qualification (A.C.A., or Solicitor). Some experience of corporate finance work would be an advantage.

Competitive salaries will be paid together with the usual bank benefits.

Please telephone, or write enclosing a detailed Curriculum Vitae to,
Peter S. Latham (Director)

JONATHAN WREN & CO. LIMITED,
170 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4LX. Tel: 01-623 1266

**Jonathan
Wren**
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CONSULTANTS

INSTITUTIONAL SALES EXECUTIVE

Edinburgh

Bell, Lawrie, Macgregor & Co. is a well established independent securities house in the centre of Scotland's Financial Community. Expansion of our Corporate Finance Department and the extension of our research coverage has resulted in the introduction of this new role of Sales Executive within our Institutional Team.

The position will appeal to self-motivated individuals aged ideally 25-35 who have considerable sales experience, preferably with a large firm of Brokers and now wish to take on a new challenge and, in turn, considerably improve their career prospects.

Salary will be fully negotiable to attract the highest calibre of applicant. In addition a competitive benefits package is offered, which includes full relocation costs where necessary.

Please write with career details to: D. J. H. McIntosh,

**Bell
Lawrie
Macgregor & Co.**
P.O. Box 8,
Erskine House,
68-73 Queen Street,
EDINBURGH
EH2 4AE.

**ACCOUNT OFFICER
£ - Negotiable plus benefits**

Bank Mees & Hope NV, a Dutch merchant bank, opened its London branch in 1982 to provide more services for our international and UK corporate clients. We have rapidly expanded both the range and volume of our services, especially in commodity trade financing.

Due to a planned expansion programme and to help with further development we now seek to appoint an ambitious person aged 25-30 with a broad banking background and a thorough credit training to add to our team of account officers. Some commodity experience would prove an asset but is not essential.

We offer scope for personal development, a salary commensurate with qualifications and experience and the usual range of banking benefits.

Please send full C.V. to Mrs Helen Wood.
Applications will be treated in strictest confidence.

BANK MEES & HOPE NV Licensed Deposit Taker
Princes House, 95 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7NA

**International Banking
Recruitment Consultant
(German speaking)**

Jonathan Wren International is the specialist overseas appointments arm of the Jonathan Wren Group, the acknowledged market leader in the field of banking recruitment. Our clients rank among the top US, European and Arab banking institutions for whom we recruit middle and senior executives. As a result of continued demand for our services and planned growth, we now seek to appoint an additional consultant to join our highly successful team to develop new and maintain existing relationships with banks in German speaking Europe.

Ideally aged between 28 and 35, candidates should be self-motivated individuals with sound marketing abilities and good communicative and

interpersonal skills and should possess a minimum of five years' banking or relevant consultancy experience. They should be German nationals or be totally fluent in German.

This position represents a challenging opportunity to join London's leading international banking recruitment consultancy and offers a high level of job satisfaction and excellent prospects together with overseas travel.

Remuneration will be a combination of base salary and a generous performance related bonus.

Please telephone or send a Curriculum Vitae to: **LAILA RAFOUE**, Associate Director, **Jonathan Wren International**, 170 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4LX. Tel: 01-623 1266.

London, Sydney, Hong Kong

**Jonathan Wren
International Ltd**
Recruitment Consultants

**EUROBOND
SALES**

CIBC Limited the wholly owned merchant banking subsidiary of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce is expanding its Eurobond Sales desk which has created openings at both senior and junior levels.

Successful applicants will be self starters in their twenties or thirties. They will have had some sales experience in eurobonds or related markets for the junior level or 3-4 years of consistent sales achievement for the senior level.

Remuneration package is negotiable and fully competitive with market levels. An excellent benefits package is available.

Replies in confidence to:- J.B. Clark,
CIBC Limited, 55 Bishopsgate, London EC2.

MARKETING DIRECTOR

City

£30K (negot.) + car

Our client is a successful City computing services company with an impressive track record of growth and a high quality customer base. Current turnover is around £10 million with pre-tax profits in excess of £1 million. The company is a major subsidiary in a well-known UK publicly quoted Group.

Products, which include computerised financial databases, on-line terminal based services and a family of specialised application packages, are marketed principally to leading financial institutions in the UK and overseas, and to the accountancy profession.

The company now wishes to establish a powerful Marketing function to help spearhead further growth. For this purpose an ambitious candidate of high calibre is sought. He/she is likely to be a graduate aged 30/45 with a good all-round marketing/product development track record.

Reporting to the Managing Director he/she will play a key role in formulating and helping implement the Company's marketing strategy in respect of both existing and new products and services, and in identifying potential areas of business growth, including acquisitions.

Our client is looking for a candidate who combines intellectual and personal calibre and creative flair with down-to-earth business judgement and who can make a worthwhile contribution at Board level as a member of an experienced and successful management team.

Applications under Ref. No. RC 228 to:

Miss Marion Williams, Extel Recruitment,
4 Bouverie Street, London EC4Y 8AB. Tel: 01-353 5272

Extel Recruitment Executive Selection Consultants

INBUCON**Assistant Director**

Investment Management

Circa £30,000

Our clients are leading Merchant Bankers in the City and members of the Accepting Houses Committee. They wish to recruit someone for an interesting and challenging dual-role appointment: to look after their customers' quoted investments in Japan, as well as to manage some general portfolios in the United Kingdom and other markets involving Private Client and Pension Fund activities.

The requirement is for a sound background of investment research and fund management experience, particularly in equities, either U.K. or overseas, with a suitable university or professional qualification and the personal qualities to enjoy a close working relationship with a successful management team as well as with the Bank's customers. Specific knowledge of the Japanese market, although an advantage, will not be essential since training in that sector will be offered. Ideal candidates are likely to be in the 35-40 age range.

An attractive salary and bonus package is negotiable to around £30,000, plus car and other benefits.

Please write with full career details, quoting reference 4105 to A. G. N. Burden

INBUCON MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS LIMITED

Executive Search and Selection
Knightsbridge House, 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RN

Accountancy Appointments

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Arthur Young Executive Selection
A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

This well-established Canadian company provides an extensive range of competitive products and services to meet all needs within the life insurance sector. It has offices worldwide, and, with assets of more than \$12 billion, is recognised as a major international financial corporation.

The company is seeking a high calibre qualified accountant to take full responsibility for the UK internal audit function. Reporting to the General Auditor in Toronto, you will be formulating audit strategy for, and monitoring financial controls on all UK operations. A major challenge will be to increase the computer audit capability and build a responsive operational audit service.

Candidates will have several years auditing experience — preferably in computer audit — probably gained in a major accounting firm or financial institution. Ambition, initiative and self-motivation are the qualities needed to cope with the demands of this position, as is an analytical mind and good communication skills. Candidates under 28 years are unlikely to have the relevant experience. The remuneration package is exceptional, and includes a fully expensed car.

Please reply in confidence, giving concise career, salary and personal details to Peg Eva, Executive Selection, quoting Ref. ER791.
Arthur Young Management Consultants,
Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane,
London EC4A 3NH.

Operations Accounting Manager



A real challenge to make a significant impact.

Smiths Crisps, part of the successful multi-national Nabisco Group, produce and market a wide range of snack food products under the Smiths, Tudor, Planters and Big D brand names.

With a turnover in excess of £130 million and a commitment to greater business growth and profitability, our Finance function has a major impact on business planning. This means we can offer a real career challenge, with prospects to match, to a young accounting professional with sound commercial awareness.

The Operations Accounting Manager has a key objective to develop and implement control systems to identify product costs and manufacturing overheads. Another aspect will be the financial management of the Company multi-million pound capital expenditure plans. The job has functional responsibility for the management and co-ordination of manufacturing accountants located at production facilities throughout the country and will involve close contact with both factory personnel and management to director level.

This is a senior role, calling for an impressive record of relevant experience (supported by an ICMA qualification) and the strength of personality to give overall direction to our manufacturing accounting operation.

Reflecting the contribution we expect you to make, we are offering a highly attractive salary and a generous range of benefits, including a Company car. Moreover, there will be genuine opportunities for career progression within either the Company or the Group.

Please write, enclosing a full C.V. to: Keith Norton, Personnel Manager, Smiths Crisps, 121 Kings Road, Reading, Berks. Tel: (0734) 583566.

Young, ambitious Accountants

High Technology
Rapid Change
Early Responsibility

As a world leader in the fast moving field of advanced electronic control systems, based in the Thames Valley, our client is the first to recognise the importance of personal career development. As a result of internal promotion and business expansion there are opportunities for young, high talent accountants to fill key roles within the organisation with a view to future career progression.

Operations Auditor c£16,000. Qualified + 1/2 years' experience.

A group-wide role in which you will be evaluating a wide range of accounting systems, proposing changes and overseeing their implementation. A challenging opportunity to develop your knowledge of computerised systems as part of a highly specialised corporate team.

Management Accountants c£13,000. ACMA with FMCG experience.

To assume key positions in two of our client's most successful divisions we are looking for recently qualified ACMAs with ideally a Business Studies/Accounting degree. You will have wide ranging responsibility for planning, reporting and systems development to meet the needs of these expanding businesses. Individual achievement will firmly establish your career within the Company.

Management Accountant c£13,000 pref. Finalist with experience in the Construction Industry.

Reporting to the Senior Management Accountant, this is an excellent opportunity to make rapid progress in a major sector of the business. You will be playing a central role in the preparation and analysis of annual planning, monthly and yearly reports and ad hoc investigation. Excellent communication skills, enthusiasm and the commitment to make an early contribution are essential.

If you believe that you have the necessary drive and personality to meet our client's requirements then please contact Steve Rowe on (0344) 416640 or send a brief CV to Rob Smith at: Macmillan Davies Confidential Reply Service, The Old Vaults, Parliament Square, Hertford, Herts. SG14 1PL.

Macmillan Davies
Personnel Consultants



International Financial Controller

Berkshire Based

Salary c£40,000 + Car + Benefits

Our client is a major international organisation trading from 42 locations worldwide and experiencing an exceptional record of growth. Currently group turnover is in excess of \$100 million.

To support this rapidly expanding business they have identified the need for an International Financial Controller who will report to the General Manager and assume full control and responsibility for all financial matters worldwide. He/she will be supported by a sound organisation of professional staff.

The successful candidate, aged 30-40 will be a

qualified FCA with extensive experience at a senior level in a fast moving international business. Fluency in English and two further European languages is considered essential as there is a high proportion of overseas commitment.

In recognition of the seniority of the post, an excellent remuneration package is offered together with relocation expenses as appropriate.

Interested candidates should write to Don Day FCA, Executive Division, enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae, quoting ref. 266, at 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY.



Michael Page Partnership

International Recruitment Consultants

London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow Brussels New York Sydney
A member of the Addison Page PLC group

QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT

for corporate audit role

A highly profitable international organisation seeks a professionally qualified Accountant to join its European Corporate Audit team.

The department is responsible for carrying out operational audits in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

A good working knowledge of either French or German, in addition to fluent English, is required. Candidates are likely to be in their late 20s, with the self-motivation and initiative to operate both independently and as part of a small team. It is also likely that candidates will already have worked overseas and that their accounting experience has been gained in a commercial environment.

Computer awareness and American multi-national experience would be an added bonus.

An excellent salary package, including a company car, will be negotiated.

To apply please send full career details to: Crawford Halls Harrison Cowley Recruitment Limited, 5-7 Forlease Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 1RP. Please quote reference RO14 and list separately any companies to whom your application should not be forwarded.



Crawford Halls Harrison Cowley Recruitment Ltd.

Newly Qualified ACA Major FMCG Group

West London

To £16,000

The company is one of Britain's largest with manufacturing and marketing operations throughout the world. As such, it can offer experience, training and career prospects of the highest order.

This challenging position has arisen within Group Headquarters which will involve the successful candidate in accounting and financial project work relating to part of its overseas operations.

This entails providing professional accounting, financial and

taxation support to, and acting as a communications link between, the Group Director for the area and Group Finance Department.

To be eligible, candidates should be Chartered Accountants in their mid-twenties, with a good academic record, a large firm background and the confidence and ability to succeed in a demanding environment.

To apply, please telephone or write quoting Ref: BB9641.

Lloyd Chapman Associates

International Search and Selection

160 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0HR
Telephone: 01-408 1670.

Construction Industry Financial Director & Company Secretary

£35,000+

OUR CLIENT is a long established major public company in the home building, property and construction industry. Turnover is in excess of £100m p.a. with pre-tax profits of well over £10m and growing.

YOU WILL be aged 35-45, a well educated, commercially minded qualified accountant and have held senior financial management responsibility at director level.

YOUR ROLE as the Financial Director of this quoted company will include representing it and negotiating with City of London financial institutions for both routine and special purposes.

YOU MUST be able to execute the consolidation of the company accounts and discharge the role of Company Secretary with efficiency and professionalism.

YOU MUST be able to demonstrate good commercial acumen, a thoroughly professional approach to accounting and be able to play a wider corporate role as a member of a highly experienced and closely knit, cheerful management team.

THE REWARDS are excellent, both financially and for the career opportunity to join a successful and developing company. The attractive negotiable remuneration package reflects the importance of the appointment.

Please write or phone: John Lee, Director, Marlar International Limited, 14 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7HH. Telephone: 01-235 9614.

All applications are treated in complete confidence.



AGENCIES [UK] LIMITED

AGENTS FOR TRANS FREIGHT LINES - MAIN OFFICE ILFORD

New organisation being established and opportunities exist for the following positions:

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

CREDIT CONTROLLER

ASSISTANT CREDIT CONTROLLERS

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS

Apply in writing with your curriculum vitae to:

Personnel Department
TNT Agencies (UK) Limited
83 Kingsway
London WC2B 6RH England

FINANCE DIRECTOR

South Yorkshire

c£20,000 + car + benefits

A high profile marketing and advertising group with a remarkable record of growth and success now needs an energetic Finance Director to guide the company towards a USM listing.

Reporting to the Chairman you will have sole responsibility for the accounting of group activities and be closely involved with general management matters.

The successful candidate will be a technically strong qualified accountant (27-35) possessing a commercial but professional approach. Strength of personality and the ability to communicate at the highest level are important pre-requisites.

An offer of commitment, real contribution and involvement will be rewarded by an excellent package including a board appointment and future stock options. Apply in the first instance to Alyn T. Pearce, L.L.B., A.C.A., Senior Consultant, quoting ref: 85/1404 FT.

Daniels Bates Partnership

PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

Daniels Bates Partnership, Josephs Well,
Hanover Walk, Park Lane, Leeds LS3 1AB.
Tel: (0532) 461671 (5 lines 24 hours).

Deputy to European Finance Director

West of London base c£18,000 + Car

Our client is a division of a highly profitable rapidly expanding U.S. Corporation with a worldwide turnover of \$2BN. Continuing development in Europe has created the need to recruit a bright, young qualified accountant 27-32 with flair and initiative able to deputise for the Finance Director. The position will entail close liaison with the controllers of the European subsidiaries and will involve budgeting, forecasting, systems development, carrying out special projects and one-off investigations. If you enjoy travel and are capable and ambitious please contact R. J. Welsh.



Reginald Welsh & Partners Ltd

ACCOUNTANCY & EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

123/4 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AA Tel: 01 600 8387

Operational Review

to £16,000 + exec car

Candidates should contact Charles Austin on 01-242 0965 or write, enclosing a c.v., to 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY, quoting ref. L2042.

MP

London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow Brussels New York Sydney

c£16,000

Candidates should initially contact Charles Austin on 01-242 0965 at Michael Page Partnership, 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY, quoting ref. 2044.

MR

London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow Brussels New York Sydney

**Accountancy
Appointments
Europe**

c£18,500 + car + bens.

Mark Brewer on 01-242 0965 or write to him at Michael Page Partnership, 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY, quoting ref. L2046.

TR

International Recruitment Consultants
London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow
Brussels New York Sydney

c £19,000 + car

Write in confidence to John Cameron, quoting ref. C411, at 10 Bolt Court, London EC4 (telephone 01-583 3911).

Chetwynd Streets

Management Selection Limited

to £16,000 plus Bonus **City**

In the first instance please write or telephone Martin Krupnick, in the strictest confidence.

Firth Ross Martin

Financial & Professional Selection Consultants

£30,000 + Car

Letters of application, together with CV, salary progression and any other relevant data, should be sent without delay to Mr. C.A. Cotton, Executive Recruitment Division, Stoy Hayward Associates, 3rd Floor, Waterloo House, 20 Waterloo Street, Birmingham, B2 5TF, quoting ref. M710.

SH

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

A member of Horwath & Horwath International

London

up to £20,000 + bonus + car

A comprehensive relocation package is also available.
Candidates should apply in confidence, enclosing a full CV and quoting reference MCS/5039 to: Barrie A. Whitaker, Price Waterhouse, Southwark Towers, 32 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9SY.

Business Needs Experts

Price Waterhouse
Business Needs Experts

Accountancy Appointments

General Manager

Law Firm

London

to £45,000



Arthur Young Executive Selection
A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

This rapidly expanding firm is based on a city company and commercial practice with major departments in litigation, building and civil engineering law, and commercial property work. It has a substantial and growing international business with offices in Bahrain, Hong Kong and Singapore and a total staff worldwide of 330 with 39 partners. It has other significant departments in intellectual property, employment law, corporate tax and private clients' affairs. Continuing expansion both in the UK and Overseas has necessitated a review of the partnership, and a reassessment of its management structure, leading to the creation of the position of General Manager. This senior position, equivalent in status to that of partner, will encompass many roles. Initially, responsibilities will include close co-operation with partners in the management of their departments, management of the finance function, control of administration, and fulfilment of the partnership secretary role. Opportunities to become involved in policy determination and the development of business strategy provide the growth potential of the position.

Candidates should be qualified accountants, aged between 35-45, who can demonstrate success in a similar wide-ranging management role in a service industry environment, ideally with experience of introducing computer based systems. Knowledge of a partnership environment and the legal profession would be useful. Leadership ability, drive and commercial awareness will be essential. Please reply in confidence, giving concise career, salary and personal details to J. J. Cutmore, Executive Selection, quoting Ref. ER774. Arthur Young Management Consultants, Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3NH.

Financial Directors

c£22,000 + Car + Benefits

Our client is a UK-based holding company which deals in a diverse range of specialist equipment and services. Major reorganisation, designed to streamline production and enhance profitability, has created the need for two further Financial Directors to join their management teams. Based in the South East and North West of the country, they will be responsible for costing and pricing procedures, financial management accounting and budgetary control. In addition experience of export financing procedures and both financial and factory computer applications are deemed to be important. Aged 28-37, and ideally ACMA's, applicants

should have an engineering-related accountancy background and a broad appreciation of systems development. They are looking for incisive and highly motivated professionals with strong interpersonal ability and commercial orientation.

If you meet these exacting requirements, you will enjoy an exceptional salary and benefits package including relocation assistance where appropriate and subsequent participation in a share incentive scheme.

Candidates should write to Don Day FCA, Executive Division, indicating the preferred location, and enclosing a comprehensive c.v., quoting ref. 262, at 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY.



Michael Page Partnership

International Recruitment Consultants
London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow Brussels New York Sydney

Financial Director

SW of London

to £40,000
+ Car
& Benefits



Arthur Young Executive Selection
A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

This rapidly growing Public Company, with subsidiaries and associated companies in the U.K., Europe, West Africa and South-East Asia, provides equipment and specialist technical services to the oil industry. Current turnover is £12 million, which is expected to increase substantially, both by acquisition and development of the Group's existing businesses.

A Financial Director is to be appointed to report to the Group Chief Executive and work closely with other members of the Senior Management team. Responsible for all group accounting and financial control at head office, the Financial Director will be expected to participate actively in the management of the company, providing information and advice from a financial viewpoint.

Candidates should be qualified accountants aged in their late 30's or early 40's with management experience gained in a service industry. A demonstrable record of success in financial control and considerable commercial flair are essential. An outgoing person with developed communication and planning skills, a strong management style, energy and dedication will match the needs of the job. Please write in confidence giving concise career, salary and personal details, quoting Ref. ER790 to J. J. Cutmore, Executive Selection, Arthur Young Management Consultants, Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3NH.

AUDIT MANAGEMENT - ROUTE TO PARTNERSHIP

Insurance

Banking

Small Business

ACA's 28-35

£18,000 to £25,000 + Car

Our client is a major international firm of chartered accountants seeking to recruit a number of sector specialists with audit or line management experience in insurance or banking. In addition general practice managers with small/medium firms of accountants are invited to apply for a number of positions available in the firm's expanding privately owned business department.

With the rapid growth of the practice those joining the firm at manager level have excellent prospects of achieving partnership in the short/medium term.

For more information please contact George Ormrod B.A. (Oxon) or Tim Forster B. Comm on 01-836 9501 or write with your C.V. to Douglas Lambias Associates Limited at our London Office quoting reference number 5351.

410 Strand, London WC2R 0NS. Tel: 01-836 9501
26 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2FF. Tel: 041-226 3101
113/115 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4JN. Tel: 031-225 7744
Brook House, 77 Fountain Street
Manchester M2 2EE. Tel: 061-236 1553

DOUGLAS LAMBIAS
Douglas Lambias Associates Limited
Accountancy & Management
Recruitment Consultants



Associate Director Finance

W. of London

c.£25K + Car plus

Our client's Group of Companies is in the Marketing Services Sector of the communications business. Its client base is impressively 'blue chip'. A public flotation, development of international relationships and new, but related business development, are all included in its strategic business plan.

The principals are energetic, hard working and successful entrepreneurs, who have stubbornly maintained their high professional standards despite the profitable growth which has been sustained throughout the decade of the Group's existence. Present turnover is c.£5M.

Professional financial expertise at Board Level will be required in the near future to supplement existing skills. The successful candidate will naturally have the technical expertise and City contacts to develop the finance and administration functions. In addition, the qualified accountant, who is likely to be aged 30 to 40, will play a significant role in the future Commercial development of the business. The salary and benefits package is highly competitive. Participation in the equity is negotiable.

Please write, in confidence, to Peter T. Willingham, attaching sufficient detail to explain why we should meet to discuss the appointment, quoting reference (66) at Spicer and Pegler Associates, Executive Selection, St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BJ.



Spicer and Pegler Associates
Management Services

ACCOUNTANCY
APPOINTMENTS
APPEAR EVERY
THURSDAY

ACA for Investment Banking

Our client, a leading US investment bank in the forefront of the international securities industry, has an exceptional opening at its London office for a young qualified ACA.

As a member of the Control Department, you will be responsible for the financial aspects of a major new security operation to be established in early 1986. In close liaison with senior management on both sides of the Atlantic, you will develop and review the bank's rapidly expanding services. An initial training

programme is planned in New York. With a good degree and proven track record, you must be ambitious with an analytical, inquiring approach and genuine management potential. The salary and benefits package will reflect the importance with which management views this position. Interested applicants should contact Mark Brewer on 01-242 0965 or write to him, enclosing a comprehensive c.v., at 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY, quoting ref. 2045.



Michael Page Partnership
International Recruitment Consultants
London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow
Brussels New York Sydney

Systems Development Financial Services

Central London

c£17,000 + mortgage etc.

Our client is one of the UK's best known and most influential financial groups. Following a recent reorganisation it seeks a qualified accountant, preferably aged mid/late 20s, to join a newly established multi-discipline team within its largest division.

In this challenging position you will play a key role in developing a number of accounting systems and in devising management information systems for operational management.

This is an exceptional career opportunity in a rapidly changing sector of the market which will provide invaluable experience for future accounting or systems roles.

Salary is negotiable and generous benefits include a non contributory pension and subsidised mortgage.

Contact David Tod BSc FCA, on 01-405 3499 quoting ref: D84/FF

Lloyd Management

125 High Holborn London WC1V 6QA Selection Consultants 01-405 3499

Financial Controller

West London

£20,000 + Car + Benefits

Miss Selfridge, one of the country's leading young fashion retailers, is a subsidiary of a major UK retailing group, and is entering a period of rapid expansion.

You will take total responsibility for the financial function, leading a well-established team in the provision of a prompt and efficient financial service. Controlling both management and statutory accounts, taxation returns, budgets and profit forecasts, you will also maintain a constant review and update of our financial systems.

Based in our West London office, you will be a qualified accountant with some years' post qualification experience, ideally in a retail environment, and will be familiar with computer based systems.

An attractive salary is supported by an excellent benefits package, which features a car, and good career prospects both within the company and the group.

Please write enclosing a full CV, to: The Personnel Controller, Miss Selfridge Limited, 21-27 Wimpole Way, Acton, London W3 0RQ.

Miss Selfridge

Finance Manager

C. London

circa £20,000

Our client, a recently established subsidiary of a major British high technology group, is responsible for the development of new products and the assessment of their commercial viability.

A qualified accountant (aged 25-35) is required to join the Management Team. The wide ranging brief will include responsibility for financial and strategic planning together with the establishment of management information systems to support the business now and in the future.

The position demands an outstanding individual who can combine technical competence with imagination, has well developed commercial instincts and above all a determination to achieve agreed business objectives.

Longer term career prospects are excellent and not necessarily limited to the finance area. Relocation expenses where appropriate will be met.

Contact Patrick Donnelly on 01-222-5169 quoting reference FT/75.



The Finance Index
Financial Recruitment Consultants
11 Palmer Street London SW1H 0AB Tel: 01-222 5169

ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

APPEAR EVERY THURSDAY

Rate £37.00 per single column centimetre plus VAT

ACCOUNTANT

Qualified experienced Accountant required for a fast growing Trade Finance subsidiary of a long established diversified group. Experience in International Trade Finance and/or Confirming a definite advantage! Accounts are currently produced manually. Top priority is to transfer accounting and credit control systems on to computer, therefore the person appointed must provide evidence of proven competence with computers including the following functions:

Daily, monthly and annual preparation of accounts
Daily credit control
Produce monthly management accounts with evaluation of results

This is a "hands on" appointment, with the successful applicant working alone until workload determines further recruitment. Reporting will be direct to the Administration Director and there will be an opportunity for some overseas travel.

Send full CV with current salary and availability in confidence to:
The Administration Director, Box A9055, Financial Times
10 Cannon Street, London EC4A 4BY

Financial Controller

Uxbridge, Middx

£17,000 + car

The UK leader in its service industry is re-structuring its centralised accounting team in readiness for computerisation.

Working closely with the F.D. you will bring the systems on line and play a major role in developing and implementing management and statutory reporting for the group and its subsidiaries.

You should be a qualified accountant, aged 25-35, able to demonstrate your potential for promotion in the medium term future. A good understanding of computer systems is essential and some knowledge of multi-currency accounting and taxation would be useful.

Please telephone James N. Denholm FCA on 01 328 9521 or send your detailed career résumé (including current salary and telephone number) to:



Financial Appointments Ltd
Recruitment Consultants
Linsbury House, 342 Kilburn High Road, London NW6.

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

£16-18,000

Cambridgeshire

This small well established and independent high-tech Company (t/o £5 million) requires an energetic and practical Accountant to join its young management team.

Applicants - probably aged about 30 - will be qualified Accountants (ACMA, ACCA) who can demonstrate their skills particularly in the areas of costing and stock control. Experience of purchasing and general administration would be advantageous.

Successful exercise of tight financial controls and the ability to adjust to the requirements of a rapidly changing and expanding technological scene can lead to an early Board appointment.

Applications in confidence to O.E.B. Hughes:
PETER NIGHTINGALE ASSOCIATES LTD.
Specialist Selection Consultants
18 Regency Street, London SW1P 4DD.
Tel: 01-821 6229 (or evenings 089 276 288).

Accountancy Appointments

Financial Controller

£18,000 London WC1

Our client, Wolff Olins, the leading corporate identity and design consultants, wishes to appoint a Financial Controller. This is a new position and the job holder will report to the Finance Director.

The main responsibilities of the post will be to develop the company's accounting system using an IBM36, and provide essential project accounting and financial information to the Board.

Candidates should be qualified accountants, preferably in their late 20s, with some commercial or industrial experience. They should be able to develop computer systems and have had responsibility for a small team. In this business service to the client and attention to detail is very important. The atmosphere however is informal, relaxed and self-disciplined. There are excellent prospects for the right candidate.

The salary package is around £18,000 which could include a car.

Please write stating how you meet our client's requirements, quoting ref 1417 to:

BinderHamlyn
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
Anna Knox, Executive Selection Division,
BinderHamlyn Management Consultants,
8 St. Bride Street, London EC4A 4DA.

Financial director

Bucks, to £25,000



For a relatively new division of a soundly based, fast growing, well managed medium sized plc. The division which is international in its scope has doubled its turnover in the past year. In part through acquisitions and now has the right mix of products and technology to take full advantage of a newish market sector which has considerable untapped potential.

Working alongside the divisional MD in a conventional FD role your first year's priorities will be to see that commercial decisions take full account of their financial implications, deal with growing pains and in particular to get systems, costing and management reporting up to group standards.

Aged from 30 you must have had at least 3 years controllership experience at a divisional level in a manufacturing group.

Résumés including a daytime telephone number to John Robins, Executive Selection Division, Ref. R266.

Coopers & Lybrand associates

Coopers & Lybrand Associates Limited
management consultants

Bridwell House 6 Greyfriars Road
Reading RG1 1UG

TREASURY MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

at the
EUROPEAN HEADQUARTERS OF A US
INTERNATIONAL COMPANY - LUXEMBOURG

These key appointments are with a highly respected US International Company, whose engineered products have established an outstanding international reputation for quality and reliability. The company, which has an exceptionally strong financial base and continues to achieve an enviable growth record, now requires to further strengthen the financial management team within the treasury function of their European headquarters.

Manager -

Banking and Credit Operations

c £26,500, Car

c FBC 2,000,000, Car

Responsibility is for the management and control of key areas of the treasury function, including the establishment and monitoring of credit terms for all commercial transactions in continental Europe, the establishment of supporting credit lines and clearance of detailed documentation. Additional key tasks are the monitoring of multi-currency rates and trends, cash management and flow forecasting, requiring constant communication with the US corporate head office and the provision of specialist advice to European operational units. Candidates in their 30's will be formally qualified in accountancy, banking or business studies and already successful in this specialist sphere in a commercial or industrial environment, now ready to take on this managerial role, success in which could lead to promotion within 2 years. Ref: 44248/FT.

Credit

Controllers

c £20,000

c FBC 1,500,000

Reporting to the Manager - Banking and Credit Operations, you will be responsible for the detailed control of credit transactions in specific business sectors, involved in all aspects from initial customer contact, through documentary preparation, credit line and debt security vetting and clearance, to final cash collections. In addition you will assist with the preparation of corporate cash and credit management reports and supporting analysis and be extensively involved in planned departmental developments which will further improve operational efficiency. The preferred applicants will be aged under 30, of graduate calibre and experienced in multi-currency credit management, documentary preparation and cash collection related to European industrial trade financing. Ref: 44249/FT.

The business language within the organisation is English but it is essential that all candidates be fluent in French and a working knowledge of German would be a distinct advantage.

Luxembourg offers a very high standard of living and the semi-rural location is in an area with excellent local amenities and educational facilities, with a wide variety of desirable accommodation and an attractive relocation package is available.

Local interviews will be arranged.

Male or female candidates should submit a comprehensive CV in English to, or telephone for a Personal History Form from, A. D. Kelly, Hoggett Bowers plc, 36 High Street, Eton, WINDSOR, Berkshire, SL4 6BD, England. 07535 50851 International 44 7535 50851.

quoting the appropriate reference number.

Hoggett Bowers
Executive Search and Selection Consultants

BIRMINGHAM, CARDIFF, GLASGOW, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, SHEFFIELD and WINDSOR

BADENOCH & CLARK

SENIOR MANAGER/
PARTNER DESIGNATE

£25-£30,000 + Car

Our client, a successful medium sized firm, are seeking to recruit an exceptionally high calibre candidate to set up and run a specialist insurance group. Applicants must have extensive experience within the insurance field, preferably gained in a panel firm.

This is an exciting opportunity for a candidate with drive and enthusiasm seeking short term partnership.

Contact Colin Pickles or Jon Varney.

TAX - CORPORATE FINANCE

£16,000 + Benefits

Our client, a prestigious British Merchant Bank, requires a young, determined candidate to undertake a challenging role within their highly respected Corporate Finance Division. This position represents a fine opportunity for bright individuals who are ultimately seeking a move into Mainstream Corporate Finance.

Candidates should be graduate ACAs with a strong academic background and a minimum of one year's experience in taxation gained preferably from a medium to large sized firm.

To discuss this exciting appointment please contact:

Timothy Barrage or Rachel Colson.

ASSISTANT
FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

£14,000 + Substantial Benefits

Our client, a member of The Stock Exchange, requires a recently qualified ACA to strengthen their accounting and reporting functions in a new position created to support the recent and future expansion of their business.

This is an exciting and challenging opportunity for a young accountant who has integrity, versatility, the ability to communicate at all levels and is capable of working under pressure. Experience of computerized accounting systems is essential.

For further details of this position contact Robert Digby to arrange an informal discussion.

Financial Recruitment Specialists
16-18 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6AU
Telephone 01-583 0073

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

London

c.£18,000 and benefits

Our client is one of Britain's leading design consultancies with an outstanding record of success and growth. This enviable position has been achieved by professionalism, determination and a fundamental appreciation of their many clients' requirements. Further expansion now calls for the strengthening of the finance team, and a qualified graduate accountant is needed to join one of the rapidly growing divisions of the company. This is a new position, and the successful candidate will report to, and work closely with the divisional M.D. Although a divisional appointment, the Financial Controller will have a strong functional relationship with the Group Financial Controller and there is a clearly defined requirement to be closely involved in overall company financial policy.

Candidates must have a strong sense of commitment, be profit aware and really understand the importance of financial control in the design/construction industry sector. Self-confidence, originality and independence are essential ingredients for survival and success. Real career development prospects exist and an attractive benefits package is for discussion.

Please apply, with detailed career particulars, to:

Nicholas Potter, quoting reference 199/FT,
Mainstay Management Services Limited,
34 York Street, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3JL.
Tel: 01-891 3301

MAINSTAY
Management Services

Financial Accounting Manager

Herts.

c£17,500 + car

Our client, a profitable and expanding group of companies with a t/o in the region of £30m, is engaged in the manufacture and distribution of high quality materials for interior decoration. Continuing development has created the need to recruit an experienced manager to fulfil a key accounting role. Reporting to the Group Finance Director, this position will assume overall responsibility for the accounts department, comprising a team of over 30 staff. Preferably a graduate Chartered Accountant, you are unlikely to be aged under 30 and must have at least 3 years' experience of developing a sizeable accounts department and maintaining tight reporting deadlines. Previous computerisation exposure is required as you will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the EDP function and heavily involved in the introduction of new, improved computer systems. Initiative, self-motivation and a decisive attitude should be among your personal qualities. Interested applicants should write to Nigel Bates FCA, Executive Division, enclosing a comprehensive c.v., quoting ref. 264, at 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY.



Michael Page Partnership
International Recruitment Consultants
London Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow
Brussels New York Sydney

LONRHO Plc Newly-Qualified Accountant

Attractive benefits package

Applications are invited from newly-qualified Chartered Accountants, who can demonstrate a high level of technical competence, for the position of Assistant Group Accountant at the Headquarters of Lonrho Plc.

Responsibilities will include the analysis and collation of management information, statutory accounts and budgets for the Lonrho Group in addition to various ad hoc exercises. A knowledge of micro computing is desirable but not essential.

Career opportunities exist for suitable candidates, both in the UK and overseas.

For further information please send career details quoting reference V.292, to:-

The Group Personnel Manager,
LONRHO Plc,
Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside,
London EC2V 6BL

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER cire £16,500 + car

Excellent position offered by this West London company active in the office technical products field (turnover approx £11m). Reporting direct to the MD, applicants must be young, qualified and have the ability to communicate at all levels. Computerised accounting experience is essential. Ref: AT/280.

For further details, please write, quoting reference, to:

THE PERSONAL SERVICE
ACCOUNTANCY ASSOCIATES LIMITED
incorporating Accountancy Recruitment
Riverside Station, London W14 7LW TELEPHONE 01-439 3367 TELEX 27789

Hoggett Bowers

Executive Search and Selection Consultants
BIRMINGHAM, CARDIFF, GLASGOW, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, SHEFFIELD and WINDSOR

Young Financial Director

For a Young Private Company with PLC potential
Berkshire, from £20,000, + Car

The company, nearly 3 years old, is engaged in residential and commercial property development. It has achieved excellent growth in turnover and profits and a public flotation is planned within 2 to 3 years. The need has now arisen to appoint a person to take responsibility for the financial direction and control of the company and to develop the systems and procedures necessary to maintain momentum in an expanding and ambitious organisation. Candidates, qualified accountants and preferably in their late 20's, should have trained with a major company or firm of accountants and have experience which demonstrates outstanding commercial and entrepreneurial ability. Specific industrial experience is secondary to talent, a forceful personality and evidence of leadership skills required to handle a very large job within the foreseeable future. Subject to performance, board membership will be offered in 6 months.

Please send comprehensive c.v. quoting Ref: 20288/FT, to H.W. FitzHugh, 01-734 8852, 6th Floor, Sutherland House, 5/6 Argyll Street, LONDON, W1V 1AD.

Finance Manager

Ohmeda Medical Engineering is a totally integrated business within BOC Health Care, involved in the supply, design, installation and maintenance of piped medical gas installations and patient services.

The unit, based at Staveley, Derbyshire, has responsibility for Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

The Finance Manager is one of six Senior Managers who report to the General Manager. He/she has responsibility for the Finance and M.I.S. functions and is supported directly by a Chief Accountant, a Management/Financial Accountant and a Computer Manager. In total there are twelve personnel within the department.

A key objective is to improve the financial planning of the business through the better use and development of business systems. This is a highly visible appointment and as a member of the Senior Management Team, the Finance Manager will be expected to participate in the planned development of the business.

An IBM System 38 is operational with a totally integrated software system.

The ideal candidate will be a qualified accountant in his/her 30's, possibly with a degree qualification and have accounting experience using standard costing techniques and be currently earning circa £15,000.

He/she will be highly motivated and clearly display the ability to work under pressure.

Experience with computers is essential as is experience of managing staff.

Candidates should send a comprehensive c.v. and details of salary and benefits to:-

Alec Luhast, Personnel Manager, Ohmeda Medical Engineering,
Telford Crescent, Staveley, Chesterfield S43 3PF.

Ohmeda

BOC Health Care



The Wellcome Trust Qualified Accountant Systems Development

The Wellcome Trust is a major grant-giving charity in the field of medical research. Currently it owns the entire share capital of the Wellcome Foundation Limited, an international group of pharmaceutical and chemical companies. The Trust has announced its intention to offer 20% of its share holding for public sale in early 1986 while retaining a strong controlling interest in the Foundation.

We are seeking a qualified Accountant to help in identifying solutions to the challenges resulting from a planned

3-fold increase in our activities. This is an important role in an organisation where excellence is the aim and where the quality of the contribution is rewarded.

The immediate tasks will include the development and introduction of an integrated, comprehensive DP-based accounting/information system and the management of a small group of accounting staff.

An attractive package is available to those with the relevant experience and who are currently earning up to £16,000.

Further details and an application form, which must be returned by 11th July, 1985 are available by writing to: Ian Macgregor, FCA Deputy Director - Finance and Administration, The Wellcome Trust, 1 Park Square West, London NW1 4LL.

Accountancy Appointments

Group and Project Accountant

£16,000 - £20,000 + car

Wiltshire

'A growth phenomenon of the '70's... accelerating through the '80's

After a decade of unprecedented growth, my client is now firmly established in the front rank of the UK Life Assurance and Financial Services Industry - a position maintained through continued investment of energy and innovative ideas.

Continuing growth and an extensive restructuring programme have created a high profile position within their Management Accounts Division.

To describe this role simply as a management accountant would seriously understate it. In addition to improving the quality of forecasting, budgeting and management information, with particular responsibility for subsidiary companies, there is significant emphasis on ad-hoc development projects and systems liaison work.

Adaptable, bright and original were some of the adjectives our clients used to describe the person they are seeking and they stressed that the calibre and potential of the person are more

important than specific experience of their business sector.

Aged 28-32, a qualified accountant and almost certainly a graduate you will need some staff management experience, preferably in a project capacity, entailing close liaison with senior management and professionals in different disciplines. This should be coupled with at least two years post qualification experience in a leading professional firm or commercial organisation.

In addition to the attractive salary, company car and full relocation benefits, you will be working within an organisation firmly committed to internal promotion and personal career growth.

To apply, please send a brief CV to Paul Carvosso ACA at Macmillan Davies, Centre Point, New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1AJ, or telephone him on 01-240 6781.

Macmillan
Davies



Director - Finance and Administration Cable and Satellite TV.

South Wales

To £22,000 +
share options

This relatively new venture supplies a range of specialist arts programmes to cable and satellite TV. Income is derived through the sale of programmes, sponsorship and advertising. Expansion will occur through sales to new media. After an initial pilot project, the company has obtained financial backing from several substantial corporate investors and is poised to develop its activities to the full.

The position carries full responsibility for accounting and EDP systems and has the assistance of three staff. The emphasis will be on the establishment of tight financial controls, costing and the provision of meaningful management information. You will be expected to deputise for the Managing Director and supervise the company's support and administration functions.

You should be a qualified accountant, probably

aged in your 30s. Your experience should include leading an accounting team and recent exposure to the less structured, smaller company environment. A real enthusiasm for the arts would enable you to identify with the company's objectives. The personal qualities necessary for success are strong interpersonal skills, professionalism and self-motivation. The benefits will include the use of a company car.

Please reply in strictest confidence, giving concise career, personal and salary details, quoting Reference ER792 to Heather Male, Executive Selection.

Arthur Young Management Consultants,
Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane,
London EC4A 1NH.



Arthur Young Executive Selection

A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

APPEAR EVERY THURSDAY

Rate £37.00 Per Single Column Centimetre, plus VAT

Chief Accountant Reinsurance

City

c.£23,500 + car

Our Clients are a substantial well established City based Insurance Company specialising in world wide Reinsurance.

They wish to recruit a Chief Accountant who will be responsible to the Financial Controller for the efficient management of the Accounting and Statistical functions, the further development of computer based systems and for the motivation and direction of supporting staff.

Candidates, qualified ACA/ACCA and ideally aged 28-35, should preferably have a background in Insurance, be familiar with statistics and tax, and have a good practical knowledge of the use of computers.

Personal qualities, and the ability to lead and motivate staff, are vital ingredients for this important position which, in addition to the basic salary, will be rewarded with a car and first class medical, pension and life assurance schemes.

Please write with full details of career to date and present salary, quoting reference T3166 and indicating any companies to whom your application should not be forwarded, to J. W. Hills, Executive Selection Division, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., 165 Queen Victoria Street, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

PEAT
MARWICK

Commercial Accountant

Harlow, Essex

c. £20,000

We seek a qualified accountant to join our Control and Commercial Services Division.

You will be responsible for the supervision of staff preparing the accounts of BP Shipping Limited and its subsidiaries for BP Group and statutory purposes. You will be expected to advise on and implement new regulations and legislation, and be the centre of technical accounting, audit and tax expertise. Additionally, you will manage the accounting controls of a newly installed on-line accounting system.

You will, ideally, be a graduate in your mid-thirties, a chartered or certified accountant, with at least five years' post-qualifying experience in a computerised accounting environment, preferably with a large commercial organisation.

Our excellent benefits package includes a non-contributory pension scheme, generous assistance with relocation expenses, up to five weeks' annual leave and superb sports and social facilities.

Please write or telephone for an application form, quoting reference BPS 7/85, to: Mrs J. Pateman, BP Shipping Limited, BP House, Third Avenue, Harlow, Essex CM19 5AG. Tel: 0279 447816.

BP is an equal opportunity employer.



BP Shipping Limited



Group Finance Director

c.£25,000 plus profit share and car

Our client, based in N.W. Kent, is an engineering and construction group with a turnover exceeding £20m.

They seek a Chartered Accountant, preferably 35-45, with experience of upgrading and operating an accountancy system appropriate to a diverse group of this size. Manufacturing based and contractor based systems experience is required, together with knowledge of cost control, computer based systems, financial policy making and a commitment to the treasury function in group accounting.

The successful candidate will need the strength of personality to take on and develop an existing team, the discipline and the sense of humour to achieve proper subsidiary reporting whilst maintaining good group relations. Importance is attached to integrity, profit orientation and the presence required to represent the group externally.

Please write in confidence, with detailed CV, to S. Holmes-Watkins, quoting reference HM339.

Hill Murray & Co
Chichester House, Chichester Rents
Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EJ

Hill Murray & Co

Hoggett Bowers

Executive Search and Selection Consultants

BIRMINGHAM, CARDIFF, GLASGOW, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, SHEFFIELD and WINDSOR

Executive Recruitment Consultants

Banking, Finance and Accounting

City, West End, Windsor & Leeds

Scotland & the South West,

c.£17,000 + Car + Profit Share

Hoggett Bowers plc is a leading executive recruitment consultancy with offices in many major locations within the United Kingdom. Further expansion of the group requires the recruitment of several high calibre, young financial executives who would like to continue their already successful careers in a dynamic environment. A financial qualification, a sound business sense, and the ability to build long term client relationships are key elements. Additionally, candidates, who will be in their late 20's, must be hard-working, smart, professional, and have a strong desire to be successful. Initial interviews will be held at an office near you.

Male or female candidates should apply with full CV in the first instance to: R.D. Howgate, Director, 061-832 3500, St. John's Court, 78 Garside Street, MANCHESTER, M3 3EL, quoting reference 27391/FT.

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

£13,326-£14,358 p.a.

required for City of Bristol Transport Services, to be responsible for an autonomous financial section serving four divisions in a successful transport direct labour organisation.

Based in Bristol, the postholder must be fully conversant with management accounting practice as applied to transport and workshop operations. He/she must be either a qualified accountant or a cost and management accountant and have considerable experience in an industrial environment. Knowledge and experience of CIPFA financial accounting practice and computer systems an advantage. The successful candidate must demonstrate the ability to meet the challenge of a growing business.

For further details and an application form telephone Bristol (0272) 266031, ext. 247 or write to the Recruitment and Equal Opportunities Manager, City of Bristol, Council House, College Green, Bristol BS1 5TR, quoting reference TS002/FT.

Applications to be returned by 5 July 1985.
BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

BRISTOL

Management Consultancy

Nottingham

Negotiable salary plus car

We are the Nottingham based practice of an International firm offering a wide range of consultancy services to industrial, commercial and public authority clients in the Midlands area.

We would like to hear from qualified accountants aged 28 to 40 who have practical experience in industry, commerce or the profession at management level, particularly in the following areas:

Financial Planning and Control
Management Information Systems
Feasibility Studies and Investigations
Corporate Planning and Marketing

Previous consulting experience, though not essential, would be advantageous.

Please write in confidence with full curriculum vitae stating present salary and quoting reference 60 to:

Clifford Bacon, Director,
Pannell Kerr Forster Associates,
Regent House,
Clinton Avenue,
Nottingham NG5 1AZ.

Pannell Kerr
Forster
Associates
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

Firth Carpets

West Yorkshire

c.£23,000 (inc bonus) + Car

Firth Carpets Ltd has a first class reputation as a successful manufacturer of high quality carpets. Turnover is currently £24m and the company is a major subsidiary of Readcut International PLC.

The position requires a qualified accountant with commercial flair and all round technical skills.

You will presently be a Financial Director/Controller of a manufacturing company (ideally textiles) seeking an opportunity to develop further in a profitable company.

Key areas of involvement are:-

- Policy and decision making at Board level.
- Production of computerised management information to strict reporting deadlines.
- Management and leadership of staff.

An attractive salary and benefits package is offered in addition to relocation expenses where appropriate.

Candidates ideally aged 35 to 45 should apply in the first instance to:-

forsythe
& Kaye

ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

51a St. Paul's Street, Leeds LS1 2TE
Telephone: (0532) 450851

Financial Investigations

Balfour Beatty is a major international construction group with an annual turnover approximately £750m.

An opportunity has arisen to join a small team based at the Group's Head Office near Croydon, which undertakes a wide range of review and investigation assignments both in the UK and overseas. Travel will be up to about 50%.

Applications are invited from Chartered Accountants with at least 2 years post qualification experience. This is a challenging appointment, and the successful applicant must have the ability to deal with all levels of management. Prospects for career advancement within the finance function are excellent.

There is an attractive remuneration package together with a company car, private health insurance, and other benefits. Relocation expenses will be paid where appropriate.

Applicants should send brief career history and personal details for the attention of the Group Personnel Manager, Balfour Beatty Limited, 7 Mayday Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 7XA.

BB Balfour Beatty

THE INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING
AND CONSTRUCTION GROUP

[illegible]

CURRENCIES, MONEY and CAPITAL MARKET

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Dollar around day's low

The dollar finished near its lowest level of the day, after a fairly nervous day on the foreign exchange markets. Dealers are still trying to assess the strength of the U.S. economy after the latest statistics, including last week's second quarter GNP figure, and the sharp rise in durable goods orders for May. When defence contracts were stripped out of the durable goods figure it was very near to the market's anticipated increase of 1 per cent, however, and this led to a surge of buying activity on Tuesday. There is now considerable confusion and debate about the possible timing of a cut in the Federal Reserve's discount rate, although it is hoped that the next Federal Open Market Committee meeting on July 9 may shed some light on the subject. The dollar's failure to breach a technical resistance level of DM 3.0850 on Tuesday also encouraged selling yesterday, while the Federal funds overnight rate was steady around 7 1/2 per cent in early New York trading.

The dollar fell to DM 3.0430 from DM 3.07, FFR 2.2725 from FFR 2.3025, SwFr 2.57 from SwFr 2.57, and Y248.40 from Y248.85. On Bank of England figures the dollar's index fell to 144.3 from 145.1.

STERLING — Trading range against the dollar in 1985 is 1.3070 to 1.0525. May average 1.2517. Exchange rate index rose 0.3 to 80.6, finishing at the highest level of the day. It opened at the day's low of 80.2. Sterling closed at its highest level of the day against the dollar, and also improved in terms of most other major currencies, scheduled for next week continues to overhang the pound, but the prospects for lower UK interest rates seemed to diminish further yesterday, following comments by the Chancellor of the Exchequer about the need to hold rates at a level high enough to reduce inflation. Sterling gained 1.30 cents to 81.2960-1.2990, and rose to DM 3.0550 from DM 3.0425; FFR 2.2650 from FFR 2.2600; Y232.75 from Y231.50, but eased to SwFr 2.5350 from SwFr 2.530.

DM-MARK — Trading range against the dollar in 1985 is 3.4510 to 2.9730. May average 3.1024. Exchange rate index 122.1 against 120.4 six months ago. The D-mark gained ground against the dollar in nervous trading. The US currency closed at DM 3.0815 in Frankfurt compared with DM 3.0725 previously, after failing to consolidate above Tuesday's peak of DM 3.0855. Initial enthusiasm about the rise of 4 1/2 per cent in May U.S. durable goods orders was tempered by the sharp increase of defence spending in the figure. Volume was restricted as the end of the half year approaches, with many operators reluctant to take out new positions until the start of the new month. Attention has now focused on Friday's May U.S. leading indicators, but this figure is not expected to move the dollar outside its present narrow range. The Bundesbank did not intervene yesterday when the dollar was fixed at DM 3.0815 in Frankfurt compared with DM 3.0604 on Tuesday.

STERLING INDEX

	June 26	Previous
8.30 am	80.2	80.4
9.00 am	80.3	80.1
10.00 am	80.4	80.2
11.00 am	80.3	80.3
Noon	80.3	80.3
1.00 pm	80.3	80.2
2.00 pm	80.5	80.1
3.00 pm	80.5	80.1
4.00 pm	80.6	80.3

£ IN NEW YORK

	June 26	Prev. close
Spot	81.2975-1.2985/81.2975-1.2985	81.2975-1.2985
1 month	81.2975-1.2985/81.2975-1.2985	81.2975-1.2985
3 months	81.2975-1.2985/81.2975-1.2985	81.2975-1.2985
6 months	81.2975-1.2985/81.2975-1.2985	81.2975-1.2985
12 months	81.2975-1.2985/81.2975-1.2985	81.2975-1.2985

FINANCIAL FUTURES

Eurodollars firm

Euro-dollar prices finished towards the best levels of the day in the London International Financial Futures Exchange yesterday. Values were marked down at the start despite a relatively successful outcome to a Tuesday's four year note auction in the U.S. but profit taking developed at the lower levels, and with some covering of short positions, so prices recovered. Sentiment was also influenced by a lower Federal funds rate and hopes of a successful outcome to Tuesday's U.S. Treasury auction, held after the close of business in London.

The market was also buoyed

by preliminary estimates suggesting a fall in U.S. M1 money supply this week while further analysis of Tuesday's U.S. durable goods orders pointed towards the inclusion of defence orders being responsible for a sharper than expected rise in the figure. Consequently values were marked up in the afternoon and with sterling showing a stronger tone so sterling based instruments finished on a firmer note. Early trading in gilts and 3-month sterling had been quiet and last night's U.S. Treasury auction, held after the close of business in London.

Today sees the start of trading in the Life market of sterling/dollar and Euro-dollar options.

LONDON

THREE-MONTH EURO-DOLLAR

	Close	High	Low	Prev
Sept	91.21	91.21	91.21	91.19
Dec	91.32	91.32	91.32	91.30
March	91.43	91.43	91.43	91.41
June	91.54	91.54	91.54	91.52
Sept	91.65	91.65	91.65	91.63
Dec	91.76	91.76	91.76	91.74
March	91.87	91.87	91.87	91.85
June	91.98	91.98	91.98	91.96
Sept	92.09	92.09	92.09	92.07
Dec	92.20	92.20	92.20	92.18
March	92.31	92.31	92.31	92.29
June	92.42	92.42	92.42	92.40
Sept	92.53	92.53	92.53	92.51
Dec	92.64	92.64	92.64	92.62
March	92.75	92.75	92.75	92.73
June	92.86	92.86	92.86	92.84
Sept	92.97	92.97	92.97	92.95
Dec	93.08	93.08	93.08	93.06
March	93.19	93.19	93.19	93.17
June	93.30	93.30	93.30	93.28
Sept	93.41	93.41	93.41	93.39
Dec	93.52	93.52	93.52	93.50
March	93.63	93.63	93.63	93.61
June	93.74	93.74	93.74	93.72
Sept	93.85	93.85	93.85	93.83
Dec	93.96	93.96	93.96	93.94
March	94.07	94.07	94.07	94.05
June	94.18	94.18	94.18	94.16
Sept	94.29	94.29	94.29	94.27
Dec	94.40	94.40	94.40	94.38
March	94.51	94.51	94.51	94.49
June	94.62	94.62	94.62	94.60
Sept	94.73	94.73	94.73	94.71
Dec	94.84	94.84	94.84	94.82
March	94.95	94.95	94.95	94.93
June	95.06	95.06	95.06	95.04
Sept	95.17	95.17	95.17	95.15
Dec	95.28	95.28	95.28	95.26
March	95.39	95.39	95.39	95.37
June	95.50	95.50	95.50	95.48
Sept	95.61	95.61	95.61	95.59
Dec	95.72	95.72	95.72	95.70
March	95.83	95.83	95.83	95.81
June	95.94	95.94	95.94	95.92
Sept	96.05	96.05	96.05	96.03
Dec	96.16	96.16	96.16	96.14
March	96.27	96.27	96.27	96.25
June	96.38	96.38	96.38	96.36
Sept	96.49	96.49	96.49	96.47
Dec	96.60	96.60	96.60	96.58
March	96.71	96.71	96.71	96.69
June	96.82	96.82	96.82	96.80
Sept	96.93	96.93	96.93	96.91
Dec	97.04	97.04	97.04	97.02
March	97.15	97.15	97.15	97.13
June	97.26	97.26	97.26	97.24
Sept	97.37	97.37	97.37	97.35
Dec	97.48	97.48	97.48	97.46
March	97.59	97.59	97.59	97.57
June	97.70	97.70	97.70	97.68
Sept	97.81	97.81	97.81	97.79
Dec	97.92	97.92	97.92	97.90
March	98.03	98.03	98.03	98.01
June	98.14	98.14	98.14	98.12
Sept	98.25	98.25	98.25	98.23
Dec	98.36	98.36	98.36	98.34
March	98.47	98.47	98.47	98.45
June	98.58	98.58	98.58	98.56
Sept	98.69	98.69	98.69	98.67
Dec	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.78
March	98.91	98.91	98.91	98.89
June	99.02	99.02	99.02	99.00
Sept	99.13	99.13	99.13	99.11
Dec	99.24	99.24	99.24	99.22
March	99.35	99.35	99.35	99.33
June	99.46	99.46	99.46	99.44
Sept	99.57	99.57	99.57	99.55
Dec	99.68	99.68	99.68	99.66
March	99.79	99.79	99.79	99.77
June	99.90	99.90	99.90	99.88
Sept	100.01	100.01	100.01	100.00
Dec	100.12	100.12	100.12	100.10
March	100.23	100.23	100.23	100.21
June	100.34	100.34	100.34	100.32
Sept	100.45	100.45	100.45	100.43
Dec	100.56	100.56	100.56	100.54
March	100.67	100.67	100.67	100.65
June	100.78	100.78	100.78	100.76
Sept	100.89	100.89	100.89	100.87
Dec	101.00	101.00	101.00	100.98
March	101.11	101.11	101.11	101.09
June	101.22	101.22	101.22	101.20
Sept	101.33	101.33	101.33	101.31
Dec	101.44	101.44	101.44	101.42
March	101.55	101.55	101.55	101.53
June	101.66	101.66	101.66	101.64
Sept	101.77	101.77	101.77	101.75
Dec	101.88	101.88	101.88	101.86
March	101.99	101.99	101.99	101.97
June	102.10	102.10	102.10	102.08
Sept	102.21	102.21	102.21	102.19
Dec	102.32	102.32	102.32	102.30
March	102.43	102.43	102.43	102.41
June	102.54	102.54	102.54	102.52
Sept	102.65	102.65	102.65	102.63
Dec	102.76	102.76	102.76	102.74
March	102.87	102.87	102.87	102.85
June	102.98	102.98	102.98	102.96
Sept	103.09	103.09	103.09	103.07
Dec	103.20	103.20	103.20	103.18
March	103.31	103.31	103.31	103.29
June	103.42	103.42	103.42	103.40
Sept	103.53	103.53	103.53	103.51
Dec	103.64	103.64	103.64	103.62
March	103.75	103.75	103.75	103.73
June	103.86	103.86	103.86	103.84
Sept	103.97	103.97	103.97	103.95
Dec	104.08	104.08	104.08	104.06
March	104.19	104.19	104.19	104.17
June	104.30	104.30	104.30	104.28
Sept	104.41	104.41	104.41	104.39
Dec	104.52	104.52	104.52	104.50
March	104.63	104.63	104.63	104.61
June	104.74	104.74	104.74	104.72
Sept	104.85	104.85	104.85	104.83
Dec	104.96	104.96	104.96	104.94
March	105.07	105.07	105.07	105.05
June	105.18	105.18	105.18	105.16
Sept	105.29	105.29	105.29	105.27
Dec	105.40	105.40	105.40	105.38
March	105.51	105.51	105.51	105.49
June	105.62	105.62	105.62	105.60
Sept	105.73	105.73	105.73	105.71
Dec	105.84	105.84	105.84	105.82
March	105.95	105.95	105.95	105.93
June	106.06	106.06	106.06	106.04
Sept	106.17	106.17	106.17	106.15
Dec	106.28	106.28	106.28	106.26
March	106.39	106.39	106.39	106.37
June	106.50	106.50	106.50	106.48
Sept	106.61	106.61	106.61	106.59
Dec	106.72	106.72	106.72	106.70
March	106.83	106.83	106.83	106.81
June	106.94	106.94	106.94	106.92
Sept	107.05	107.05	107.05	107.03
Dec	107.16	107.16	107.16	107.14
March	107.27	107.27	107.27	107.25
June	107.38	107.38	107.38	107.36
Sept	107.49	107.49	107.49	107.47
Dec	107.60	107.60	107.60	107.58
March	107.71	107.71	107.71	107.69
June	107.82	107.82	107.82	107.80
Sept	107.93	107.93	107.93	107.91
Dec	108.04	108.04	108.04	108.02
March	108.15	108.15	108.15	108.13
June	108.26	108.26	108.26	108.24
Sept	108.37	108.37	108.37	108.35
Dec	108.48	108.48	108.48	108.46
March	108.59	108.59	108.59	108.57
June	108.70	108.70	108.70	108.68
Sept	108.81	108.81	108.81	108.79
Dec	108.92	108.92	108.92	108.90
March	109.03	109.03	109.03	109.01

INDUSTRIALS—Continued

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LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

MARKET REPORT

Equities receive another mauling which extends index fall since June 5 to 84 points

Account Dealing Dates
Option
First Declared Last Account
Dealing Date Dealing Day
June 17 June 27 June 28 July 2
July 1 July 11 July 12 July 22
July 15 July 25 July 26 Aug 5

A continuation of the downward pressures on electronic and kindred stocks demoralised the London equity market yesterday. Leading shares tumbled for the second day running in nervous trading to leave the FT Ordinary share index down 15.6 more to 834.5, less than 8 points above its low for the year. The problems currently besetting former glamour stocks such as electronics and high-technology received widespread press coverage following Rascal's warning on Tuesday about the current business outlook.

Rascal weakened further but market interest yesterday switched to Thorn EMI. Talk that two brokers were effecting sizeable amounts of stock, the residue of orders which they had not been able to complete late the previous evening, brought Thorn EMI down 25p to 42.25p. The movement soon gave rise to adverse speculation and in addition some broking sources were believed to be downgrading their profit forecasts for the group following Rascal's experiences.

Other areas of the equity market again suffered the effects of the sector's latest mauling. Dealers showed no desire to increase already adequate books and attempted to deter selling by marking down prices severely. The move was successful for a while but the respite proved to be only temporary. Late in the day values began to head lower again and the tone after-hours was the session's worst. The latest fall brought a two-day drop in the FT Ordinary share index of 28.7, since June 5 the index has plunged nearly 84 points.

Qualification of last month's U.S. durable goods orders, artificially increased by heavier military spending, now starting to improve as the dollar eased. Gilt-edged investors were moderately impressed and a light early demand took quotations higher. Lack of follow-through support later brought an easier trend and the market finally recorded small mixed movements on balance. The shorts were again a bit better and the long a trifle cheaper in places. Index-linked issues also improved marginally.

Royals easier

A day after denying any such venture, Royals announced the acquisition of Lloyd's Life Assurance for £24m and promptly closed 10 lower at 64.5p. Other Composites drifted lower with sentiment still unsettled by fears of possible substantial claims arising from the Air India jumbo jet disaster. General Accident eased 5 to 61.0p as did GIE, to 71.0p, while London United fell 17 to 27.0p with the new all-paid

10 down at 25p premium. Lloyds Brokers featured Hogg Robinson, 5 easier at 22.0p on the annual results and news of the purchase of its U.S. partner, LTV Corporation of Dallas, which is to be effected by a vendor placing of 3.5m Hogg shares at 22.0p.

Quietly dull conditions prevailed among the clearers with Lloyds notable for a fresh decline of 13 to 57.5p. Barclays dipped 8 to 30.0p and NatWest cheapened 3 to 55.5p. Midland, however, proved to be resilient and held the overnight level of 36.5p.

Newcomer Green Property, the holding company of an Irish property development and investment group, was unable to maintain the offer-for-sale level of 78p; after opening at that price, the shares eased to close at 73p.

Revised speculation that the company is ripe for a consortium bid prompted a lively business in Allied-Lyons, finally 6 to the previous evening, brought leading brokers lower, gave ground in subdued trading. Bass slumped 15 to 62.7p, after 52.4p, while Whitbread A eased 4 to 21.0p. Scottish and Newcastle dipped 2 to 13.8p; the annual results are due on Monday. A stream of trading results failed to enliven proceedings among Regionals. G. Ruddle gave up 3 at 14.0p on the static full-year results, but Dorchester-based Eldridge Pope hardened a few pence to 20.0p following increased interim earnings.

Fears of competition from Spanish cement producers following the entry of Spain and Portugal to the EEC unsettled Blue Circle, down 10 to 50.0p. Other Buildings gave ground across a broad front. BPB were shaken by the preliminary results which were well below market forecasts, and slumped to a year's low of 20.0p before closing a net 18 off at 21.2p. Countryside Properties gave up 12 to 22.2p and Coston Group dipped 6 to 38.5p. French Kier, on the other hand, attracted support and closed 3 up at 18.0p following Press suggestions of a full bid in the wake of Trafalgar House's recent stake build-up.

ICI closed 4 off at 73.5p. Elsewhere in Chemicals, Elsevier Chemicals advanced 5 to 62p on news that Barrow Hepburn has increased its holding in the company to 5.3 per cent.

Leading Stocks, which displayed relatively modest falls on Tuesday, slumped sharply as sentiment deteriorated. The announcement that House of Fraser had lifted its stake to 8.13 per cent failed to stimulate Debenhams, which subsequently drifted lower and finished 20 down at 36.1p.

Barclays fell 12 to 44.0p, yesterday was the first closing date of the hostile offer which currently values each Debenhams at around 31.75p per share. Double-figures losses were also sustained by

FINANCIAL TIMES STOCK INDICES

	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 23	June 22	June 21	June 20	June 19	June 18	year ago
Government Secs.....	61.61	61.77	61.98	61.96	61.96	61.94	62.17	62.43	62.55	78.35
Fixed Interest	64.72	66.26	66.58	66.78	66.49	66.46	66.46	66.46	66.46	82.48
Ordinary	69.61	69.13	69.63	69.53	69.53	69.53	69.53	69.53	69.53	81.16
Gold Mines	439.0	448.5	440.2	440.6	459.2	452.2	445.1	445.1	445.1	645.8
Ord. Div. Yield.....	4.93	4.86	4.80	4.81	4.75	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.81
Earnings, Yld % (full)	12.66	12.17	12.03	12.06	11.91	11.80	11.66	11.66	11.66	12.68
P/E Ratio (inst) (")	9.88	10.04	10.15	10.13	10.28	10.34	10.28	10.28	10.28	10.66
Total bargains (Est.	21,762	21,706	22,186	22,584	22,584	22,584	22,584	22,584	22,584	20,408
Equity bargains	20,828	20,828	20,828	20,828	20,828	20,828	20,828	20,828	20,828	19,898
Shares traded (mil.) ..	202.0	140.6	147.9	177.9	270.1	150.1	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.9

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Indices

	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 21	High	Low
1985						

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	Low								
28	41.22	AUSTRALIA							
	5/11/83	Air ord./11/11/83	952.8	880.8	857.2	853.7	804.5 (32.6)	715.5 (7/7)	
		Metals & Minis. (1/1/80)	952.8	912.4	918.4	867.4	805.5 (23.9)	852.1 (2/1)	
13	12.35	AUSTRIA							
	8/7/82	Credit Aktien (3/1/82)	102.28	102.37	102.54	104.35	105.75 (7.8)	105.21 (2/1)	
19	18.5	BELGIUM							
	23/11/82	BEI (1/1/80)	2514.57	2518.18	2527.45	2532.95	2534.12 (5.6)	2509.77 (18/7)	
		Denmark							
		Denmark SE (4/1/85)	(L)	104.37	135.80	135.54	104.37 (25.6)	155.44 (8/1)	
		FRANCE							
		OAC General (5/1/1982)	226.4	226.0	226.2	225.6	225.1 (1/1)	180.6 (6/1)	
		Tel Tendence (2/1/1984)	226.4	225.5	225.6	227.4	225.1 (1/1)	180.6 (6/1)	
		GERMANY							
		FAZ Aktien (5/1/1982)	475.24	484.21	494.4	495.49	484.21 (25.6)	392.38 (3/1)	
		Commerzbank (1/1/1985)	1475.3	1453.2	1429.0	1427.1	1453.2 (25.6)	1111.5 (16/1)	
		HONG KONG							
		Hong Kong Bank (1/7/84)	1558.19	1576.75	(L)	1587.15	1647.39 (17.2)	1220.74 (2/1)	
		ITALY							
		Banca Comn. Ital. (18/7)	337.48	338.04	336.76	335.95	337.48 (21.5)	228.55 (2/1)	
		JAPAN**							
		Nikkei Dow (7/5/84)	1739.15	1733.57	1737.95	1754.7	1720.15 (25.6)	1734.56 (2/1)	
		Yokohi Sec New (4/1/85)	1959.35	1959.48	1971.51	1918.54	1920.35 (25.6)	2135.35 (7/1)	
		NETHERLANDS							
		ANP-CBS General (1/1/80)	216.4	211.0	210.0	208.5	214.5 (7/8)	185.5 (3/1)	
		ANP-CBS Indust (1/1/80)	174.8	174.8	174.8	174.9	175.8 (7/8)	167.2 (3/1)	
		NORWAY							
		Otto Sec (4/1/85)	582.51	525.75	526.37	534.54	545.87 (9/5)	586.18 (2/1)	

June 21	SINGAPORE Straits Times (1988)	764.27	763.47	762.44	764.68	852.65 (7/8)	764.78	(18/1)
2,004	SOUTH AFRICA	-	1,007.8	1,014.5	1,000.5	1,140.8	1,154.4	858.1 (11/23)
1,826	JSE Gold (28/8/78)	-	978.6	977.3	977.7	978.6	1,056.6	767.1 7/5
534	JSE Indust (28/8/78)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
444	SPAIN Madrid SE (28/12/84)	164.99	105.89	106.30	106.61	117.41 (4/2)	161.48 (2/1)	-

Change ing on ce day -2% + 1/4 + 1/4 + 1/4	SWEDEN						
	Jacobson & P (11/58)		1515.42	1511.70	1514.77	(a)	1485.90 (11/2) 1511.70 (25/5)
	SWITZERLAND						
	SwissBank Cpn. (5/12/58)		445.5	441.5	445.5	457.5	445.5 (25/5) 435.7 (5/1)
	WORLD						
	Capital Int. (1/1/78)		—	215.5	215.1	212.7	214.5 (7/5) 194.5 (4/1)

Base value of all indices are 100 except JSE Gold—255.7, JSE Industrial—264.3, and Australia. All Ordinary and Metals—500, NYSE All Common—50; Standard and Poors—10; and Toronto Composite and Metals—1,000. Toronto

00 (N/1)	Industrials plus 40 Utilities. 40 Financials and 20 Transports. c Closed, u Unavailable.	Using Bond. y 400
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TRADED OPTIONS
 Tuesday-Thursday-Friday

The Financial Times

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NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE COMPOSITE CLOSING PRICES

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Continued on Page 43

AMEX COMPOSITE CLOSING PRICES

OVER-THE-COUNTER Nasdaq national market, 2:30pm prices

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Continued on Page 41

FINANCIAL TIMES

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

WALL STREET

Optimism engendered by auction

U.S. FEDERAL bonds staged a rally yesterday as traders became more optimistic after the satisfactory conclusion of the first of this week's Treasury auctions, writes Terry Byland in New York.

The upturn ended five consecutive sessions of falling prices.

The stock market edged ahead after a dull start with major investors discouraged by the breakdown in the Senate negotiations on the federal budget.

Wall Street regards agreement on the proposals to cut the federal deficit as essential if interest rates are to be reduced this year. However, the sharp jump in May durable goods orders announced on Tuesday continued to inject confidence.

At the close the Dow Jones industrial average was up 0.78 at 1,323.81.

IBM's expansion into the telecommunications market through the acquisition of a stake in MCI Communications reverberated through the communications sector. AT&T dipped a further 3/8 to \$23 in heavy trading on the announcement of this serious threat to its market.

With Wall Street impressed again by IBM's capacity for aggressive expansion, its stock jumped 1 1/4 to \$123 1/4. MCI continued to advance, gaining a further 1 1/4 to \$104 on the Nasdaq market.

Other computer issues held steady, despite further bad news from the in-

dustry. Intel, in which IBM has a stake, gained 1/8 to \$25 1/8 after laying off part of the workforce.

Oil stocks continued to rally from the weakness of the past few months. Exxon gained 3/4 to \$53 1/4 while Atlantic Richfield added another 3/4 to \$9 1/4 in brisk trading as Wall Street continued to take a positive view of retirement of the chief executive.

The 7 per cent fall in sales of U.S. manufactured cars kept the Detroit auto stocks subdued. General Motors, which suffered the brunt of the fall, steadied 1/4 to \$71 1/4, but Chrysler at \$35 1/4 was 3/4 off and Ford eased 3/4 to \$44 1/4.

The rest of the industrial stock market edged ahead. General Dynamics 3/4 off at \$74 1/4 was the sole weak spot in defence and aerospace issues. Chemicals held firm, except for Du Pont, 3/4 down at \$58 1/4.

Bid enthusiasm swept through the airline stocks. The favoured targets were Northwest Air, which bounded 3/4 to \$34 1/4 in heavy trading, and Delta Air, 1 1/4 higher at \$48 1/4.

Potential bidders were harder to identify, but a sudden dip in American Airlines of 3/4 to \$45 reflected market sentiment that AMR might be gearing up to match United's strong role in the domestic market. Suggestions that Mr. Carl Icahn might be involved seemed unlikely, since his 32 per cent stake in TWA rules him out of another airline acquisition on regulatory grounds.

Baxter Travenol's move to line up \$2.5bn bank credit suggested that it might fight to acquire American Hospital Supply, which edged up 3/4 to \$27 1/4 on the news. Hospital Corporation of America, which already has an agreement to merge with AHC, added 3/4 to \$48 1/4, while Baxter Travenol slipped 3/4 to \$15 1/4 as Wall Street awaited the next move.

In food stocks, General Foods dipped 3/4 to \$80 as bid hopes waned. Other recent speculative favourites to weaken included Quaker Oats, 3/4 off at \$31 1/4. Kellogg, however, found buyers again and added 3/4 to \$58 1/4.

Bank shares appeared little affected by an important directive on Argentine loans by the Federal regulators, which could affect future earnings. Manufacturers Hanover, which tops the list of U.S. lenders with \$13bn in Argentine loans, was 5/4 firmer at \$39 1/4. BankAmerica at \$18 1/4 also gained 3/4. Other bank stocks held steady, except for Bankers Trust which dipped 1 1/4 to \$67 1/4.

In the credit markets, Federal funds dipped to 7 1/4 per cent, and other short-term and money market rates were lower, with hopes of a cut in the discount rate unlikely in the immediate future. Federal funds are expected to remain in the 7 1/4 per cent to 7 3/4 per cent range.

The bond market, cheered by the reception for the first leg of the Treasury funding operation, waited calmly for the results from yesterday's sale of \$6bn in Treasury seven-year securities, to be followed today by the auction of \$4.5bn in 20-year bonds. Bond prices were firmer in moderate trading.

TOKYO

High hit on increased turnover

A NEW PEAK was reached during trading in Tokyo yesterday as buying by private investors continued to expand, writes Shigeo Nishitani of Jiji Press.

The Nikkei-Dow market average jumped 73.27 to close at 12,910.29, its second consecutive record. Volume rose sharply to 646m shares from Tuesday's 363m. Rises outnumbered declines 436 to 376, with 135 issues unchanged.

The most active stock was Keisei Electric Railway, the largest stockholder of Tokyo Disneyland. It advanced Y8 to Y473 on trading of 32.01m shares. Investors were encouraged by the listing on the Tokyo stock exchange of Walt Disney Productions, with which Tokyo Disneyland is connected. But unprofitable property owned by Keisei is said to be hampering the reconstruction of the railway company.

Tokyo Tatemono rose from Tuesday's Y880 to Y877, reflecting optimism about its property holdings, although it lost its rights to 10 per cent free distribution of shares.

Nomura Securities soared Y70 to Y1,320 on the day's second heaviest volume of 20.58m shares. This prompted investors to buy other major brokerage houses and non-life insurers. Yasuda Fire and Marine advanced Y10 to Y809, and Taisho Marine and Fire Y22 to Y597. Daiwa Securities gained Y22 to Y932, while Nikko Securities closed Y21 higher at Y809. Yamaichi Securities added Y27 to Y814.

Apart from these financial issues, stocks most in demand were lower-grade foodstuffs, expanding biotechnology businesses, and assets-heavy issues. A leading broker said buying was speculative, designed to obtain quick profits.

Among biotechnologies, Taiyo Fishery was the third busiest with 18.36m shares traded, as it added Y5 to Y314. Meiji Milk Products placed fifth, finishing Y19 higher at Y496. Teijin and Snow Brand ranked sixth and 10th, respectively, but closed unchanged at Y491 and Y370.

However, leading biotechnologies eased. Asahi Chemical Industry lost Y30 to Y955, Toyoko Y90 to Y1,560 and Sankyo Co Y50 to Y1,230. Mochida Pharmaceutical plunged Y480 to Y9,820.

Despite slow trading, blue chips gained ground. Hoya shot up Y200 to Y2,000, while Asahi Glass gained Y15 to Y881. Sony went up Y40 to Y4,090 and Hitachi closed Y8 up at Y741.

Bond prices gained slightly in lacklustre trading, despite adverse factors such as a decline in U.S. bond prices and the year's drop in Tokyo. The yield on the benchmark 7.3 per cent government bonds maturing in December 1993 dipped to 6.450 per cent from Tuesday's 6.460 per cent.

CANADA

FURTHER consolidation in Toronto spread to most sectors although resource issues managed to resist some of the downturn.

Genstar was actively traded 3/4 higher to C\$31 1/4 and Dome Petroleum rose 12 cents to C\$2.97 after announcing the sale of some assets to Suncor and Computalog in the past two days. Domtar, however, dipped 3/4 to C\$18.

Financials were also active with Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce 3/4 off at C\$36 while Royal Bank dipped 3/4 to C\$30 1/4 and Toronto Dominion lost 3/4 to C\$23 1/4.

Utilities and industrials gained ground in Montreal as banks eased.

SOUTH AFRICA

FEATURELESS trading in Johannesburg left most share sectors narrowly mixed as investors waited for signs of a positive market trend.

In the gold, Driefontein picked up 50 cents to R49.50 while Free State Geduld finished unchanged at R51. Buffels encountered some steady selling and closed 50 cents off at R73.50.

Among mining financials, Anglo American eased 10 cents to R28.90 and Gencor firmed 25 cents to R30.

LONDON

CONTINUED PRESSURE on London electronic and kindred stocks demoralised the equity market again yesterday and the FT Ordinary index dropped 15.8 to 936.5. The index has lost nearly 84 points in the last three weeks.

Racal, which triggered Tuesday's fall, weakened a further 8p to 145p as market interest switched to Thorn EMI, 42p down to 375p.

In particularly active stores, Debenhams fell 20p to 175p, Burton, fresh from an acquisition, dipped 12p to 44p and Boots lost 10p to 179p.

Elsewhere, Westland picked up 10p to 83p after the troubled helicopter group requested a financial review of its operations.

Glit investors were moderately impressed by a firmer sterling but lack of follow-through buying prompted an easier trend. Shorts closed generally better and longs turned cheaper in spots. Index-linked issues improved marginally.

Share information service, Pages 38-39; Details, Page 40; Chief price changes, Page 41.

AUSTRALIA

FIRMER international bullion prices aided gold miners in Sydney but base metal issues eased in a moderately active session that produced a 1.2 rise to 882.0 in the All-Ordinaries index. Institutional book squaring ahead of the end to the financial year also helped sentiment.

Poseidon traded 5 cents higher to A\$3.40 although Bougainville eased 2 cents to A\$2.

In banks, Westpac held steady at A\$4, ANZ dipped 4 cents to A\$4.44 and National Australia picked up 1 cent to A\$4.19.

A mixed media sector saw News Corporation retreat 10 cents to A\$8.60 and the Herald & Weekly Times remain pegged at A\$4.33.

SINGAPORE

THE BROAD decline in Singapore trimmed 9.20 points off the Straits Times industrial index to 784.27 as profit-takers emerged to take the upper hand.

Pan Electric led the active list again easing a further 15 cents to S\$11.30 while Cerebos, also active, dipped 5 cents to S\$2.07. A 5-cent fall for Genting took it to S\$5.95.

In financials, Malayan Banking and Hong Leong Credit shed 15 cents each to S\$5.65 and S\$5.20 respectively while OUB at S\$3 and UOB at S\$4 limited their losses to 6 cents each.

EUROPE

Frankfurt falls to nervousness

A STRONG technical reaction took hold in Frankfurt yesterday, sending prices of a broad range of stocks tumbling from record levels.

The hectic selling was founded in nervousness about the market's short-term prospects and created its own momentum as profit-takers moved in to pick up their advantage accrued during the past two months. Led by sharp falls among blue chips, the Commerbank index slumped 80.30 to 1,372.90, effectively erasing most of the improvement registered this month.

Resilience developed during late business; however, this failed to instill confidence that the market would quickly shake off the caution and return to its strong upward course.

Insurer Allianz was high on the sellers' lists and opened DM 70 lower at DM 1,455 before recovering to end down DM 50. The construction group Holzmann was also singled out in reaction to its recent strength and shed DM 82 to DM 405.

Foreign selling was strongest among bank issues. Deutsche Bank dropped DM 10.80 to DM 587 after hitting a low for the day of DM 585.50 while Commerbank fell DM 3.50 to DM 196 and Dresdner DM 1 to DM 229.

Daimler-Benz closed at its low for the day with a DM 21 fall to DM 1,458. Losses among chemicals were relatively light. BASF eased DM 2.10 to DM 224.60 while Bayer ended DM 2.80 lower at DM 233. Electricals felt the full weight of the profit-taking. Siemens shed DM 10.50 to DM 567 and AEG DM 4 to DM 137.

Bond trading gathered pace and price falls were widespread. The Bundesbank bought DM 41.3m worth of paper, compared with DM 17.8 on Tuesday.

Zurich drew inspiration from Wall Street's overnight performance and pushed prices higher in active trading. The Swiss Bank industrial index reached a new high for the year with a 1.4 increase to 443.3.

The banking sector was again solidly supported. Among the leading gainers, Union Bank added SwFr 55 to SwFr 4,115, Credit Suisse SwFr 30 to SwFr

2,860 and Swiss Bank SwFr 5 to SwFr 436. Bank Leu which has been edging forward for several sessions moved against the trend with a SwFr 15 fall to SwFr 3,875.

Jacobs-Suchard attracted speculative interest, particularly from West Germany and jumped SwFr 165 to SwFr 6,325. Leading the transport sector, Swissair firmed SwFr 30 to SwFr 1,290 while in engineering stocks Schindler was up SwFr 150 to SwFr 4,625.

Consolidation of recent advances continued to take place in Paris as prices drifted higher.

The pharmaceutical group Roussel-Uclaf stood out with a FFf 98 rise to FFf 1,703 while Générale Occidentale also featured with a FFf 33 increase to FFf 747.

Michelin eased in response to several advances, falling FFf 10 to FFf 1,210 as Peugeot eased FFf 1 to FFf 415.

Amsterdam was mixed to lower with several stocks extending their opening losses in dull trading.

Among market leaders, Royal Dutch fell 90 cents to F1 196.40 and Phillips and Unilever each closed 50 cents down at F1 32.50 and F1 350 respectively.

A weak downturn developed in Brussels. Petrofina, the centre of interest amid further concern about the world oil market, eased a further BFr 80 to BFr 5,670.

Retailers showed lower trends. Delhaize lost BFr 60 to close at BFr 8,500 and GB-Inno-BM fell BFr 10 to BFr 3,715.

Trading remained thin in Stockholm with concern about domestic interest rates again slowing activity. However, the Veckans Affärer index managed to bounce back from its low for the year with a 0.7 rise to 451.5.

Milan moved higher in active trading, although late, mild selling took prices off their peaks.

Madrid eased, led by marginal falls among banking issues.

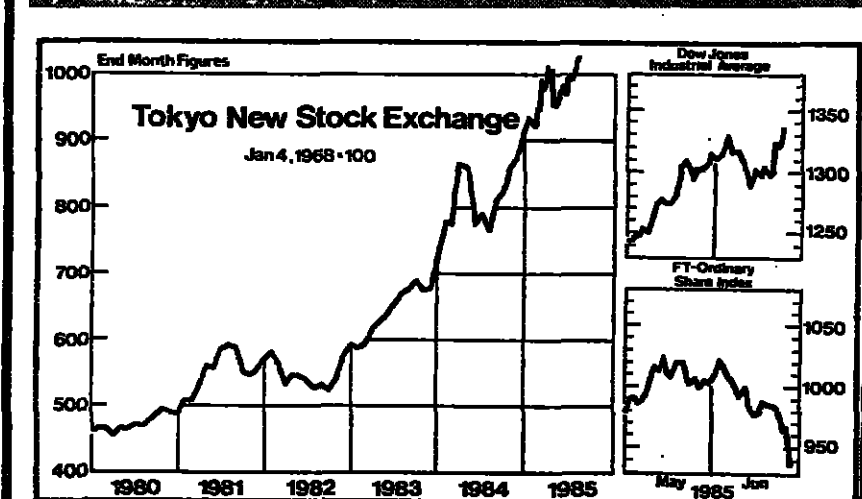
HONG KONG

THE TONE turned weaker in Hong Kong yesterday as traders took profits after four straight sessions of gains.

Utilities were actively traded. Hongkong Electric gained 5 cents to HK\$8.35, but both China Light and Hongkong Gas eased 10 cents each to HK\$15.80 and HK\$10.70 respectively.

Property issues fell to profit-taking after scoring fairly strong gains during the market's recent advances. Cheung Kong lost 10 cents to HK\$16.10, Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf shed 5 cents to HK\$8.05 and Hongkong Land was off 10 cents at HK\$5.65.

KEY MARKET MONITORS



STOCK MARKET INDICES				
	June 26	Previous	Year ago	
NEW YORK				
DJ Industrials	1,323.81	1,322.03	1,122.79	
DJ Transport	656.25	650.98	472.12	
DJ Utilities	163.57	164.50	124.37	
S&P Composite	189.99	188.74	152.71	
LONDON				
FT 100	936.5	952.1	816.2	
FT-SE 100	1,236.5	1,248.3	1,033.1	
FT-A All-share	588.14	604.08	488.01	
FT-A 500	651.35	658.43	529.95	
FT Gold mines	439.0	445.5	641.8	
FT-A Long gilt	10.80	10.82	10.41	
TOKYO				
Nikkei-Dow	12,910.29	12,785.93	10,245.1	
Tokyo SE	1,028.30	1,017.20	789.79	
AUSTRALIA				
All Ord.	862.0	860.8	656.3	
Metals & Mins.	508.6	512.5	421.5	
AUSTRIA				
Credit Aktien	102.29	102.57	53.96	
BELGIUM				
Belgian SE	2,314.57	2,318.13	—	
CANADA				
Toronto	1,886.1	1,889.3	1,902.0	
Metals & Mins	2,705.1	2,708.7	2,224.5	
Montreal	132.10	132.26	108.83	
DENMARK				
SE	196.75	194.97	181.38	
FRANCE				
CAC Gen	228.4	229.0	170.3	
Ind. Tendance	128.5	129.0	89.3	
WEST GERMANY				
FAZ-Aktien	473.64	484.21	344.89	
Commerzbank	1,372.9	1,433.2	994.3	
HONG KONG				
Hang Seng	1,565.19	1,575.15	927.82	
ITALY				
Banca Com.	337.46	336.34	212.35	
NETHERLANDS				
ANP-CBS Gen	210.4	211.0	154.0	
ANP-CBS Ind	174.6	174.8	123.0	
NORWAY				
Oslo SE	322.21	325.75	244.43	
SINGAPORE				
Straits Times	784.27	793.47	900.34	
SOUTH AFRICA				
Gold	—	1,007.0	961.4	
Industrials	—	978.6	936.3	
SPAIN				
Madrid SE	104.99	105.08	85.85	
SWEDEN				
J & P	1,315.42	1,311.70	1,482.72	
SWITZERLAND				
Swiss Bank Ind	443.3	441.9	357.8	
WORLD				
June 26	Prev	Year ago		
Capital Int'l	213.3	213.1	174.5	
GOLD (per ounce)				
	June 26	Prev		
London	\$317.25	\$316.50		
Zürich	\$317.25	\$315.50		
Paris (filing)	\$315.03	\$315.30		
New York	\$315.75	\$316.25		
London (Aug)	\$317.50	\$318.30		

* Latest available figure

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange. It does not constitute an offer of, or invitation to the public to subscribe for or purchase, any securities.

N.Z. \$50,000,000



BP Capital B.V.

(Incorporated in The Netherlands with limited liability)

16% Guaranteed Notes 1988

unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by

The British Petroleum Company p.l.c.

(Incorporated in England under the Companies (Consolidation) Act 1908, registered number 102498)

The following have agreed to procure subscribers or to subscribe for the above Notes:

Amro International Limited	Banque Bruxelles Lambert S.A.
Banque Nationale de Paris	Barclays Merchant Bank Limited
Deutsche Bank Aktiengesellschaft	Dresdner Bank Aktiengesellschaft
Girozentrale und Bank der österreichischen Sparkassen	Hambros Bank Limited
Merrill Lynch International & Co.	Mitsubishi Trust & Banking Corporation (Europe) S.A.
Morgan Stanley International	Nederlandsche Middenstandsbank nv
The Nikko Securities Co., (Europe) Ltd.	Nomura International Limited
Swiss Bank Corporation International Limited	S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.
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27 June 1985